

INSIDE: North Africa's dramatic desert war

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CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

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Maclean's

AUGUST 12 1993 VOL. 96 NO. 34



The brutal shuffle

Prime Minister Trudeau shuffled his cabinet last week and, although it will not change policy, it will give the government a new look going into the next election. —Page 10



Horror returns to realism

While some horror films blaspheme audiences with gratuitous violence, *Ojo*, based on Stephen King's novel, is horrifying in an unnervingly real manner. —Page 53

COVER

The new king of fashion

Four years ago Alfred Sung was the owner of a tiny boutique. Now, the designer is the hottest name in Canadian fashion, and his clothes are worn by Margaret Trudeau and Mira Maxvoss. His meteoric rise is because of a combination of risk, sophisticated designs and the driving force of his partners, Suzi and Joseph Marwan. —Page 34

COVER PHOTO BY WALTER CHAN



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Libya tightens its iron grip

As Libyan troops overtake northern Chad, both Washington and Paris rushed aid to the beleaguered pro-Western forces. But it may be too little—and too late. —Page 18



Politics of Protestantism

When the Protestant and Eastern Orthodox churches met in Vancouver, they soundly denounced nuclear warfare as a "grave against humanity." —Page 42



The Canadian fashion industry is an unlikely model on which to construct successful business strategies. But designer Alfred Sung, the subject of this week's cover story, has provided an example of an integrated approach which combines marketing, designing and selling *Experiences*, seeing fads like "Flashpants," the Cats style or the nuclear holocaust gimmick from Japanese designers who are wrapping people in black bandages are not for Sung. Instead, he



works through an organization which enables him to keep in touch with what consumers want, not only what he wants to produce as an artist. And rather than content himself with selling only in the relatively small Canadian market, Song recorded successfully in the U.S. by marketing reports who have been able to launch his discs successfully in the United States.

Senior Writer Gillian MacKay, who reported and wrote the *Nation* story which begins on page 34, found that, although his success looks like magic, "It is really hard work and hustle." Added MacKay, a former business reporter, "Sam's designs are successful because they have classic lines, they are comfortable, and they have a bit of flair. The clothes fit the life of a working woman perfectly because they are made with her needs very much in mind."

Researcher-Reporter Jackie Carles took a personal interest in the story because she owns some of Sung's dresses. Said Carles: "The real value to me of Sung's clothes is that I know I could wear them five years from now and still be in style. The only real problem I have with Sung's dresses is that I don't get nearly enough opportunities to wear them."

Kevin Doyle

Carson and Mackay, *Climate Wars*[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

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problems came out of SALT II and the pressure to abide by its limits. The NO. 1 being problem is simply a function of the fact that we have agreed not to undercut the limits of SALT II. That is why you cannot deploy them in a way that makes sense. If we did not have SALT II, then having more 16 missiles as more NO. 1 missiles would not have been any problem and the disparity between the Soviet and U.S. ground-based ballistic missile force would disappear. Without it, the whole panic about a first-strike capacity would disappear. You cannot solve any of that under the limits of SALT II, so you get these hating plans that are contrary to common sense. The great mistake we made—and we made it all by ourselves—was not reacting during the 1970s while the Soviets were developing. Now we have to suffer the consequences.

McGuire's: But President Reagan has been staunch enough in forcing the Soviets to SALT II. He has been staunch in trying to increase our armaments in order to restore the balance, but there has been as yet no articulation of a coherent foreign policy approach. The main problem, really, has been the failure to articulate the basis of our foreign policy and that comes out of a certain prudism in approaching the Vietnam War issue politically. It seems better to do it all at the level of intellect, a notion with which I disagree.

McGuire's: What kind of articulation would you like to see?

Reagan: For now, in terms of articulation, I would like to see the primary emphasis on backing the appeal that UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar made in his annual report. He said the world is slipping into anarchy and he calls upon nations to reconnect themselves to the principles of the United Nations Charter. That is the issue as to which to confront the Soviets to call on them, to call on everybody, to give up aggression.

McGuire's: But the secretary general, in that same annual report, said it was clear that people were paying less and less attention to the United Nations and its charter. He seemed as though, in some ways, he had given up.

Reagan: Well, he has not given up, he cannot give up. But it is the nations who must decide to give up aggression. The charter has been going the way of the League of Nations ever since Vietnam, and if it infuses maximum to diminish it, will come to have any impact on the behavior of a lot of countries. **McGuire's:** I assume that you were not a supporter of détente with the Soviets?

Reagan: I strongly favor true détente, but we have never had it. It was an absolute fiasco. The 1960s was the worst decade of the Cold War. You had the final in Vietnam in which the Soviets

made agreements in 1973 and then tore them up and threw them out the window. The agreements were perfectly all right. They provided for self-determination for the people of South Vietnam, but the Communists just marched troops in and took over. The Soviets promised co-operation in resolving the Arab-Israeli dispute and carrying out UN Resolution 242 and then, the month before Nixon got to the Middle East in 1973, they made an agreement with Anwar Sadat to support the 1953 Egyptian-Israeli war. And they started planning and supplying that war. Then, when the Soviets sensed the weakness of the United States after the collapse in Vietnam, they started rushing around in Africa and began active campaigns in the Caribbean. There was not any détente at all. It was pure stage. Henry Kissinger says, "Yes, we avoided détente. The reason—the 1973 election. **McGuire's:** Will Reagan run in 1984?

Reagan, Yes.

McGuire's: Will the Democrats try to capitalize on the nuclear freeze issue?

Reagan: They will try, but it will be disastrous. They will be playing into Reagan's greatest strength. It will be a replay of the British Labor Party because at least half the Democratic party will not follow them.

McGuire's: Americans once felt a sense of mission in protecting the "free world." Today, not even that Americans are simply interested in protecting themselves.

Reagan: The great danger now is the removal of isolationism under the whip of nuclear anxiety. A lot of people are saying, "These treaties that Truman and Eisenhower got so into can get us into a lot of trouble, even nuclear trouble. So let's get out of the treaties. Let's pull the troops out." Of course, that's the next step is to say, "Well, we cannot treat the allies so shoddily, so far consequences. Let's give the Germans the nuclear option." It is very dangerous, because I think that, in the most simple terms, the security of the United States absolutely requires our relationship with West Germany. That is the calculation of the balance of power, which is the oldest idea in foreign affairs. If we allowed the Soviet Union to take charge of Western Europe and Japan, the correlation of forces, as the Soviets would like to say, would be overwhelmingly in their favor. We could not have any freedom in that kind of world. We look back nostalgically to the century of neutrality and isolation between 1815 and 1914 and have not yet recognized that dream with reality. Throughout the 19th century we thought that we were protected by our superior status. In fact, we were protected by the British fleet. There had nothing to do with that. It is an important lesson to remember.



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Ready on the Right

Rev. Jerry Falwell's Moral Majority, the powerful, many-chaptered politico-religious group, is changing its strategy as it prepares for the 1984 U.S. presidential election. The fundamentalist New Right group, championing such issues as the outlawing of pornography and abortion and

ministering prayer in school, is credited with pushing adoption of votes toward Ronald Reagan in November, 1980. At the same time, it played a key role in defeating some liberal senators and congressmen. But the movement had no impact in last fall's congressional elections. Undaunted after years

of relying on "hit lists" and scurrilous personal attacks on liberal candidates, what is considered to be one of the most influential conservative movements in the United States is adopting a new approach: concentrating the positive. Some high priests of the Right even want to shed the New Right label for a broader, more subtle New Populism.

New Populism is defined by Richard Vigorini, the direct-mail mogul and fund-raiser, in the October, 1982, issue of *Conservative Digest*—a second bible among New Righters. According to Vigorini, 66, the revamped movement is a popular uprising against big government, big banks, big labor and media elites. For his platform, Falwell, 60, has added two crusades against "Grossism," as he calls anticatholic congressmen, and homosexuality who, he charges, have given the United States a disease, AIDS, which "could become the plague of the century."

The New Right is deeply divided over support for Reagan in 1984. Some continue to endorse him, although with cooled enthusiasm. That support could be financially important. The Moral Majority chairman is adding a political action committee to his \$65-a-million empire (it includes a religious program seen in 34 states) across Canada called the I Love America Committee. Its sole task will be to funnel money to Falwell's political favorites in 1984. Falwell hopes to raise \$4 million to be spread among a dozen conservative candidates, including Reagan. In other New Right quarters support for Reagan has evaporated. Archconservative, who feel that the president has let them down by compromising with the liberals, indicate that they would endorse Jesse Helms, the 61-year-old Republican senator from North Carolina, as their presidential choice if he decided to run. From his seat on the Senate foreign relations committee, Helms consistently berates Reagan's loose control policies, charging that the president holds "naïve, African Warlords of ideas about the Soviet Union's world designs."

What success did the New Right hope for in 1984? Many political observers predict that it will not fare much better than it did last fall. Americans seem to feel that the rightward swing has gone far enough. It is difficult to predict the impact of the new "positive approach," but with bright eyes appearing in the all-important senatorial race, the president's advisers see no reason for him to alter his brand of conservatism.

For its part, the Moral Majority and other anticonservative groups, as they plan for 1984, are faithfully turning the leaf over toward heaven. Richard Vigorini says, "If we lose or win, God's will is going to be done. He has his plan."

—WILLIAM SCHWARTZ in Los Angeles

Sticky thoughts for sultry days

By Fred Brunning

Such is life in these United States that a baseball bat can sometimes hours of raging debate, antiracism media coverage, and a full-page ad placed by people who must yearn for freight business. "The American League had to trust someone to deliver in a sticky situation," said a promotional headline in *The New York Times* below was a picture of a solid bat and the caption in which we were led to believe the cudgel had been picked for safe return. This is extortion. This is headsup blackmail. This is terribly depressing.

Let us review on a midsummer night, the Royals of Kansas City were hovering at the Bronx with the confidence of millionaires and aristocrats known as the New York Yankees, and presently, an epic squabble developed. Little commendable can be said about the Yankees' part in the drama or, for that matter, about the Yankees generally. Here is a team that distasteful itself mainly by periodically firing its pugnaresque manager, Billy Martin, and yet those toward good sense are disappointed soon enough because the Yankees meritably refuse Martin and much animosity and spirited advance ticket sales. Back reinforcements in a message sent by the organization and its lynchpin patronage, George Steinbrenner, that traveling, boozing and backslapping not only are acceptable but represent the sort of high character that advances teams only and holds champions. No wonder so many and hearts cry out, "Where have you gone, Joe DiMaggio?"

Anyway, late in the disputed contest, George Brett of the Royals put his grungy head with a respectable willow into the right-field seats. Martin, brash and sly, argued that the batter be disallowed because pine tar on Brett's bat exceeded the 3½-ounce limit. Umpire considered the matter gravely, consulted the benches and ruled for the Royals—a determination that at least made it safe for the sun in its travel back to their hotel. Brett flew, pulled out his belly and filled the air with more epithets than did Richard Nixon in those days when he routinely fired seminars on the morality of Detroit and the existence of a mosquito press. At the end of nine innings, the Yankees were ahead.

As a result, the Royals complained to the American League office, and, fol-

lowing deliberations worthy of the Vatican, Commissioner Lee MacPhail reversed the lower court. Brett's home run bounced back into the record books, and the Royals went ahead in a contest long since abandoned. Subsequently, MacPhail ordered that the game be completed Aug. 28, commencing at the point above the pine-tar incident had left off. The bat? It was dispatched westward, evidently by air express.

Yankee fans—those who earlier had celebrated the victory of baseball's judicial system—cried. Lamenting Steinbrenner only suggested MacPhail might not be safe in New York ("Perhaps he should start house-busting in Missouri," sneered the *Post*), and Martin quizzed about a breakdown in law and order. The major league television network pitched themselves into the controversy anew, and Americans, on front steps and in back yards, examined the question with exceeding care.

'Now that history has ceased to come packaged as theatre, Americans seem content to let the world slip by'

"The spirit of the law must be upheld," proclaimed a school teacher from New Hampshire. "We are a people of intent, a humane and intelligent culture, based on the merits on paper, but by the dictates of conscience and Christian imperative. MacPhail is a philosopher, not a law clerk. He has sensed the moment." The teacher's advocacy, employed in a trade that did not allow for two second opinions, struck somewhat, more to the point: "A rule is a rule. The Yankee was robbed."

Meanwhile, it was not exactly as if the world had shut down. Ronald Reagan, for instance, determined that confusion in Central America were paralyzing enough to require the services of Henry Kissinger. Unhappily, that Henry Kissinger, the former secretary of state now heads a policy committee and, when ready, will inform the White House as to what course the United States might best pursue in those small and barbarous nations threatening hemispheric peace and the sleep of our chief executive. On Kissinger, a batsman like George Brett has nothing. Jack Hawk is obscured by many the most

dangerous of hitters, a fellow who demonstrated in Southeast Asia a knack for blowing the game wide open, if you will, for burning up the base paths and everything.

Yet at precisely this season we were not entering the month of Henry's new post. It's his back, he's back. We take him in stride. Politics have eased our imaginations, perhaps eased them. People would rather talk, with patience, about virtues for figures of praise, national identity, the virtues of Japanese auto, defining prices in the personal computer market, Susan and Garfunkel reunited, prospects for the United States Football League, tuition costs, Nevada power. Politicians counts.

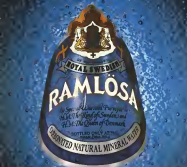
Yes, the professionals—the politicians and military leaders and the all university days who can appear a moment away from their stockmarket—still look around matters relating to foreign policy and domestic planning. A few hearty souls persist in being dragged off by police outside nuclear plants and military bases. Later this month a contingent of diehards will even march through Washington as heralds of peace and freedom, a trip down memory lane if ever one were taken.

But, for most of us, current events have lost their charge. It seems that American sports has diminished most alarmingly in the past two decades. Civil rights, Vietnam, even Watergate—it was easy to be alert, at top of things, back then. Now that history has ceased to come packaged as theatre, however, we are bored, angry, careless, content to let the world slip by.

Recently President Reagan expressed dismay over reports that significant numbers of Americans were without adequate food supplies. Such news "perplexed" the president, and, because it was his impression the administration had some safety programs in place, and, besides, the economy was recovering. Hanger? Gosh, he just hadn't heard. Who can blame him? Unpleasantness has long since lost its appeal as a topic for proper conversation. The great reason men are likely to find much baseball bats and big-league paragonage. The Yankees may come to have suffered in the pine-tar case, but think about what has happened to the quality of debate and public awareness by conservatives. Bobbed? Hey, buddy, we win all robbed.

Fred Brunning is a writer with *Newday* in New York.

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New ministers Silenkos and Harcourt-Popovic; Awerchuk (right); Roberts (below). No changes in policy

CANADA

Another shuffle, another show

By Carol Goss and Mary Juregins

Just before Finance Minister Raymond Perrault was dropped from the federal cabinet last week, he offered Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau two pieces of advice. First, he said that he should be replaced by a stronger second. Perrault said that Trudeau should shake up his own office and the entire party, not just "severage the chairs" around the cabinet table. Trudeau clearly ignored Perrault's first suggestion when he appointed five newcomers from the Liberal back bench to his inner circle. And the Prime Minister also seems likely to disregard the British Columbia senator's second request.

Trudeau was enthusiastically brutal in discussing five ministers. But his third cabinet shuffle of the year is unlikely to produce any notable change in the policies of the three-year-old government. All of the key economic ministers—with the exception of Lloyd Axworthy, who was moved from Employment and Immigration to Transport—kept their jobs. But rookie minister David Collette identified one possible reason for the new appointments. Bumping from the steady overruling occurring at Rideau Hall, the new multilateral minister added

that the government had to try to change its image before the next federal election, due within 18 months. "It's the Stanley Cup team," he said. "We're down, we're in the final rounds and we have to pull the game out of the fan."

Never in his 15 years as prime minister has Trudeau dropped so many ministers at one time. Small Business Minister William Dampier was in West Germany when Trudeau called to tell him he had been dismissed. Perrault, a nine-year cabinet veteran, had known for weeks that he would be a casualty. Defense Minister Gilles Lamontagne, 66, the oldest member of cabinet, was also prepared for his dismissal, and he had been lobbying for the post of lieutenant-governor of Quebec. But for Toronto ministers Paul Grogan and James Fleming, who had been in the cabinet only three years, the shuffling closed off political careers that they had cultivated for years.

For the five newcomers it was a time for

celebration. Incoming Finance Minister Gilles Harcourt-Popovic only wanted a wide-brimmed panama hat and playfully offered to run a 16-woman mile for the 180 reporters who gathered outside the Governor-General's residence. The 42-year-old Montreal lawyer was first elected in 1976, and her appointment brought to three the number of women in the Trudeau cabinet—tying a record set in 1986. Roger Bennett, 64, took over Newfoundland's traditional seat in cabinet.

From Bumpsey when he was appointed, minor mistakes he will now be in a position to oppose Newfoundland Premier Brian Peckford's claim to full jurisdiction over the employment of offshore oil and gas.

In making the Ontario appointments, Trudeau had to choose from a large number of strong and ambitious Toronto MPs, and he picked three respected back-benchers. The new minister of state for forests, Ray MacLaren, will act as second-in-command to



Finance Minister Steve Laskowski. He has been a foreign service officer, an executive of Manulife-Bank of Montreal and the publisher of Canadian Business magazine. MacLaren was in Britain when his appointment was announced and will not be officially sworn-in until he returns. David Collette inherited the multilateralism ministry. Although the department has fewer than 40 employees, it is an important ministry because of its ability to enter to the prime voters who have traditionally voted Liberal. David Smith's appointment to the small business ministry, although a junior cabinet post, will provide him with the chance to claim some credit for fostering the economic recovery, which the Liberal leaders will help them capture support in the next election. David Smith, 41, knew I'm going to be expected to do a lot of communicating with the business community."

The only real surprise among the internal cabinet shifts was the departure of 49-year-old Lloyd Axworthy from the employment portfolio, where he had won Trudeau's respect. The prime minister assured the former university professor from Winnipeg that he had been slated for the treacherous transport portfolio because he was the only western MP in cabinet—and his new assignment will involve forcing legislation to alter the Crow freight rate through the House early in the new session.

Axworthy displaced 58-year-old veteran Jean Luc Pepin, who struggled with a portfolio that often overwhelmed him. "I'm going to miss the whole damn thing—I would have liked another few months," he said. Pepin was demoted to

minister of state for external affairs, which places him under the wing of External Affairs Minister Allan Rock, a position that his way soon had intolerable. Axworthy's Toronto assistant John Roberts will become a key economic decision-maker as he takes up the employment portfolio. In the senior ministry, Roberts frequently made headway with the Americans on the issue of aid cuts. But now he will have to try to add the emphasis of publicity resulting from the persistently high unemployment rate. Roberts will also play an important role as the regional minister responsible for Toronto, which will give him a platform to promote his own leadership ambitions.

At Employment, Roberts will inherit a job creation masterplan that was crafted together by Axworthy and Industry Minister Ed Leamy. Since last spring Leamy and Axworthy, who were assistants in the House of Commons, have been identifying industries with potential to hire or re-hire and devising training programs to fit them in the new job.

Roberts and Leamy will share a common dilemma. An economic recovery does not cure the deeply rooted deficiencies of the industrial base or the labor market. Even if the economy were booming, economists estimate that the country would still be left with an unemployment rate of between eight and nine per cent (coupled with the current 12 per cent).

It was the plight of the unemployed that brought Axworthy, Leamy, other cabinet colleagues and two dozen bureaucrats, academics, businessmen and a labor leader together recently at the

Lacawatan resort of Via Maria, 15 km northwest of Montreal. The weekend think tank turned out to be Axworthy's state-of-the-art employment seminar. But he went out in a storm of controversy when he said that the job market will never be as flexible as it was before the recession. As a result, said Axworthy, workers should be prepared to have the available jobs. His remarks produced an indignant outcry from business and labor leaders in an interview before his new appointment, Axworthy said, "At least I have people thinking about the issue of full employment."

Roberts takes over the employment portfolio at a difficult time. Axworthy was able to keep his political reputation intact during the office's turbulent employment in half a century by showing compassion for the jobless, introducing new schemes and expanding benefits for the unemployed. But the new minister, by contrast, inherits an economy on the mend. "The recovery sets a very different signal for the employment minister," Axworthy said, "instead of reacting, the worst off, he has to look ahead, making changes the way we organize work. That's a more risky venture."

The remaining portfolio shuffles were more cosmetic than substantive. Notable was the elevation of 46-year-old Judy LaMarsh to the junior minister ministry to the consumer and corporate affairs portfolio. She will, however, retain her responsibility for the status of women. The promotion clearly pleased her. "Not at all shabby, as they say," she said. LaMarsh replaced Montreal senator André Gervais, 65, who was shifted sideways to labor after an up-and-down political career. That move knocked Toronto's backwater Charles Caccia, 55, out of labor into the environment portfolio. Meanwhile, Supply and Services Minister John Dwyer, 65, who was placed in Lamontagne's old finance and Minister of State for External Affairs Charles Lapointe, 58, moved into LaMarsh's former slot.

For all that, 23 of Trudeau's 35 cabinet members retained their current portfolios. And after last week's shuffle each of the appointees predictably pledged to faithfully support the government's current policies. "This is clearly a big day for modernity," declared Conservative Leader Brian Mulroney. "You can't get any more drastic when you pose results from a bad deal." New Democratic Party Leader Ed Broadbent agreed. "This suggests no changes in major policies for the government, which is regrettable," he said. The next act in the Liberal drama may be by far the most important: who will replace Pierre Trudeau decades whether he will retire soon or stay to fight the next election. ☐



Premiers Campbell, Lougheed, Lévesque, Devine, Buchanan, Poiry and Peckford: courtin' a low profile

A conference without confrontation

By Susan Riley

Canada's 16 provincial premiers met in Toronto last week determined to avoid launching an outright attack on Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau. Instead, they tried hard to ignore him altogether. The result was one of the most harmonious, if uneventful, gatherings in the 36-year history of provincial first ministers' conferences. After two days of deliberation, the 50 provincial leaders produced a consensus reportable for its blandness. It called for improved co-operation in promoting international trade, that that recommendation was made by the premiers' own industry ministers 12 months ago—and by federal and provincial officials for decades. The consensus's other main proposal—that Trudeau visit each provincial capital to discuss problems of economic growth with individual premiers—was never considered to be a serious possibility. Asked when he would be the Prime Minister to visit Winnipeg, Manitoba Premier Howard Pawley replied, "I've not holding my breath." Then the Prime Minister himself ruled out the idea as impractical.

Indeed, the premiers appeared to be deliberately court a low profile in Toronto

Certainly, this year's chairman, Ontario Premier William Davis, was determined from the start that there would be no harsh public attacks on Ottawa. Preempting Davis' statements, the concern was the political realisation that, in his own words, "The public is a

Chairman Davis: court co-operation



little tired of confrontation." As well, the premiers believe that Trudeau's Liberal government, now at its lowest point ever in the polls, may very well destroy itself without the need for any outside criticism.

Some premiers had additional reasons for not wanting to draw attention to themselves. British Columbia Premier William Bennett, who was under fire last week when 40,000 B.C. public servants demonstrated against his new austerity policies, was not provincial leader who welcomed the relative anonymity of Toronto. Bennett stoutly defended his job-slashing retirement budget but he was careful to restrict his remarks to that subject. Meanwhile, René Lévesque was uncharacteristically buoyant, although his Parti Québécois government is sliding badly in the polls. Even Newfoundland's volatile premier, Brian Peckford, and Alberta's iron-jawed Peter Lougheed were unusually mild in their comments. Behind the scenes, however, Peckford, Lougheed and Lévesque got what they wanted when they argued down a Davis proposal for a first ministers' conference on the economy. Such a forum would be used by the Liberals as a pre-election platform, the Quebecers contended. In-

stead, they came up with the unlikely "alternate plan" that Trudeau meet them one at a time.

The premiers even tempered their anti-federal rhetoric. That was because, as one premier confided, "We would be handing Ottawa an electric fuse." As a result, despite recent threats from Edmonton that Alberta will fight federal health, manpower, manpower, manpower's threatened penalty for hospital overruns and extra-billing by doctors, Lougheed's statement was distinctly muted in Toronto. With the rest of the premiers, he avoided raging denunciations and submitted a mild request that the big meet with provincial health ministers in September to discuss proposed changes in federal-provincial health care funding.

On the issue of Canada's \$4 million unemployment, the premiers were unable to reach any consensus. With New Brunswick Premier Poiry extending Manitoba's \$300-million job creation program and Bennett laying off hundreds of public servants in British Columbia, the ecological golf proved too wide to cross. Poiry, for one, expressed disappointment.

"The bottom, the economic reality of unemployment should be we dominated the economic development throughout," he said. But most of his colleagues, particularly the seven Progressive Conservative premiers, appeared ready to delay taking any action in the hope that Brian Mulroney and his federal Tories will win the next election and provide enough new economic stimulation to create more jobs.

The most heated discussions were the least expected, in one closed-door session, New Brunswick Premier Richard Hatfield, often Ottawa's ally, complained that the federal government's new approach to regional assistance was more politically partisan than ever before. He charged that Ottawa is providing federal grants to liberal ridings with virtually no consultation with the premiers. Then, Nova Scotia Premier John Buchanan declared that federal Trade Minister Gerald Regan, a former premier of the province, had recently approved construction of a \$50-million federal office building for downtown Halifax without any prior discussion with provincial officials. The project has now been delayed, but the incident threatened to spark an outright attack on the federal government. Then Saskatchewan Premier Grant Devine reminded his colleagues that any strong criticism of Ottawa would be counter-productive. Ultimately Devine, Davis and other moderates prevailed. Their colleagues decided to wait for what one Alberta official called "the shoe to drop on us"—Trudeau—to retire from politics for good.

Florida's Quebec connection

U.S. drug enforcement officials refer to it as "The French-Canadian Connection," one of the largest international drug trafficking networks in North America. Last month, after a three-year investigation into Florida's booming synthetic-drug drug trade, U.S. marshals moved in and arrested 36 suspects on 40 indictments from a Fort Lauderdale grand jury. Then they revealed that at least 11 of these indicted were Quebecers, some of whom had never been held in custody in Canada after the 1975 Quebec Police Commission inquiry into organized crime. Although the U.S. investigators claim that they have broken the back of

local meat-packer William O'Brien, 59, who was named as a top underworld financier in testimony at the Quebec crime inquiry. O'Brien moved to Miami-Dade, Fla., in 1974, became a naturalized U.S. citizen and managed to avoid testimony at the crime investigation. O'Brien's alleged role in the drug smuggling operation was his longtime business associate, Douglas Stevens, a wealthy horse breeder and investor who was jailed for 18 months in Florida in U.S. when he refused to testify before a grand jury that was investigating gambling and corruption in the state.

Other Quebecers arrested in the raid included Michel Séguin, who was de-



RAIDS with drugs: the network's reach extended to the Canadian border

the drug smuggling ring, Florida officials are still carefully monitoring more than 40 former Montrealers who are now either residents or regular visitors to Florida and who own more than \$300 million worth of businesses and real estate in the palm-fringed South. Michel Séguin, 54, a former Montrealer, was arrested in the U.S. last month. He is now in custody in Florida. "There is still a significant number of Canadians operating in southern Florida,"

According to Stanley Marcus, the U.S. attorney for southern Florida, the marshals had the cross-border smuggling operation was former Mon-

tréal meat-packer William O'Brien, 59, who was named as a top underworld boss of Borel, 60 km northwest of Montreal, and Romeo Tremblay, 46, formerly of Shawinigan, Quebec. Andre Desjardins, the former Quebec union boss, was also indicted by the grand jury. The DEA has filed extradition papers in Washington to have Desjardins brought back to Florida from Montreal to face trial. Said one DEA official: "We have got him. But we wait his body too."

The investigation, which involved the U.S. and local Florida police forces, traced drug traffic exchanges where more than \$50 million worth of

parities changed hands. The DEA officials claim that a variety of drugs, including Quaaludes and the tranquillizer diazepam (sometimes sold under the trade name Valium), were shipped from Canada into the United States by cars and trucks. In return, cocaine was shuttled north into Canada. Major Mike Navarra, chief of the Broward County Organized Crime Bureau, which includes the Fort Lauderdale area, has been working Obrecht and Stevens for the past 20 years. He described them as "sneakers, illicit businessmen with whom investigators had 'played a cat-and-mouse game' for years."

Some officials of the DEA fear that cross-border trade traffic may intensify despite the wave of arrests. And critics of investigators disparaged Navarra's characterization of the organization as non-violent. As well as picking up about \$30,000 allegedly manufactured Valium and Quaalude tablets in last month's ongoing arrests, one investigator said that he seized an "unconventional hit" during the raid. "Anybody with a kit containing a semiautomatic gun equipped with a silencer obviously plans to use it," he said. DEA officials said that the evolution of the French-Canadian connection could be traced back to the late

1960s, when the sale of their drug dealers, and the Colombian cocaine for methamphetamine suddenly became restricted. Then, according to Jack Frost, a DEA investigator, "the market began to reach out for other sources."

The reach did not have to extend farther than the Canadian border. While the Canadian organization did not offer too much methamphetamine, it had no trouble providing diazepam, a more potent drug than Quaalude.

The trade also enabled Canadian dealers to offer something other than hard cash for their own cocaine purchases. At the same time, the export of diazepam created a thriving cottage industry in southern Florida. There the supplier was pressed into 25- to 500-mg pills and neatly stamped "Lemon 714," disappearing down as legally manufactured Quaaludes. "They were turning out a very high-quality product," said one investigator. By the time of last month's sweep, dealer "Dad," the codename was the largest distributor of Valium in the world. As well, an attorney for the U.S. justice department quoted Obrecht as boasting that he personally controlled every pill produced in south Florida. If Obrecht is correct, it is a sure source of cocaine and diazepam.



Extinction looms for fishermen

For Canadians, one of the world's leading consumers of salmon, this year's British Columbia harvest of the fish has produced a series of disappointments. Pollution is slowly destroying 1,000 spawning streams; a stock of two of B.C.'s five salmon species are in decline; the federal fisheries conservation program is in disarray; catches are down, retail prices are up and the province's highly efficient fishing fleet is sinking into bankruptcy. In a 22-chapter report on the industry, entitled *Surviving The Tide*, B.C. minister Peter Penne concluded that salmon stocks were well below desirable levels. The report, overlooking Penne's final recommendations included repealing the outdated Fisheries Act, opening salmon research as a state scientific issue and removing half of the province's 4,700 salmon boats from the industry.

Though most agree that the salmon fleet must be cut, outrage over Penne's report has not subsided. The francophone fishing industry met through a union's advisory council, quickly recommending to federal Fisheries Minister Pierre De Bauld that a one-year moratorium be placed on Penne's recommendations. According to the council's request, the fisheries department instead authorized a \$64-million grant to British Columbia's Salmon Enhancement Program (28 hatchery facilities that now account for 10 per cent of the province's catch), the tax returns of 776 fishermen audited and, in a move announced at a Vancouver press conference last week, agreed to a \$9.8-million

fishing boat and a catch, rearing in and

butlet purchase of a B.C. Fisheries harbor facility.

These moves, however, have only made some waves in already troubled waters. In recent weeks angry fishermen have seized two north coast fisheries offices, and two weeks ago, in a protest against drastically lowered wholesale fish prices, the 1,000-member union staged a 26-hour walkout. Though a long strike now appears averted, fish prices, which have been falling since 1979, tumbled further this year, driving the price of Coho salmon down to 68 cents a pound from the 2002 price of 75 cents. Yet, in a precedent-setting decision, the union accepted lower prices, at least the majority of independent fishermen who comprise the fleet. Said Bill Triggs, a 68-year-old fisherman: "He more or less a cooperator."

Despite the fewer numbers of salmon, everyone involved in the industry seems determined to catch the last one. And who is allowed to catch what has been the subject of heated disputes. British Columbia's Indians claim the fish as an aboriginal right, while the fiercely independent trawlers, seines and all-net fishers claim that the other groups are taking too many fish. Illegal poaching is a widespread problem, and sports fishermen also demand their quotas. There is almost general agreement on one thing, however: that the federal fisheries department has been unable to stop the slide in the number of salmon. Still, while the debate rages on, no thing is clear: the arguments are only a warren of that could signal the end of one of Canada's best-known and best loved food products.

—JOHN FAIRMAN in Vancouver

B.C.'s hot blast of protest

The blood-red Solidarity symbol that few ever saw in Vancouver's Empire Stadium, seemed slightly hypocritical last week as 40,000 workers left their jobs to attend a mass rally against the British Columbia government's controversial restraint program. Still, the turnout surprised even B.C. Federation of Labor President Arthur Kube, who had predicted only half that number. And it immediately sparked rumors that a "spontaneous general strike" might be the next tactic used by the coalition of unions, public service agencies and community groups that organized the rally.

As it was, the gathering provided a varied version of a general strike. Large-scale strikes and lockouts around Vancouver were closed; the city's bus system shut down for four hours; and some 200 members at provincial prisons and homes for the elderly, risking loss of pay, letters of reprimand and temporary suspensions, left their charges alone for the day. For his part, Premier William Bennett, who was attending the premier's conference in Toronto,

the political backlash against the government's restraint program, the government in softening some of the harsher measures contained in the July 7 88-bill budget package. Chabot has introduced an amended bill dropping the government's original plan to fire provincial employees without cause, and Labor Minister Robert McNeiland has suggested that diazepam may be made in British Columbia's new and somewhat enfeebled human rights legislation. Even Human Resources Minister Grace McCarthy, a Social Credit loyalist, admitted last week that the government had been a bad job selling its restraint program. "We do not tell our story, and when we try to, we gibber it," she said. That presumably is a problem for public relations practitioners, but the government's recent hiring of a PR company for \$48,000 to promote its bitter-restraint program is likely to engender widespread admiration.

Not one of the 88 bills in the restraint package has yet been passed, and a re-elected NDP Opposition has promised to block passage for months. Still, Bennett



Mass rally at Empire Stadium: the Solidarity symbol was slightly hypocritical

dismissed the protest's significance, saying, "Some part of the demonstration is really those who lost demonstrating against the results of the last [May 1] election." Bennett suggested that those who support his position have enough dignity not to show up at rallies.

Despite these brave words and other attempts by Bennett and his provincial secretary, James Chabot, to downplay

could revert to a traditional Social tactic and get legislation by re-election, pushing his restraint program through the house in another legislative session, or he could resign with the Opposition and make a deal, ensuring passage of the law by removing some of its more contentious aspects. History suggests that it will be the marathon route.

—MALCOLM GRAY in Vancouver



Miami Beach: the trade enabled Canadians to offer more than cash for cocaine

buying drug trade in South America, particularly in Colombia. The latest series of drug inquiries began three years ago when Colombian boats were investigated and ultimately prosecuted for smuggling methamphetamine along with their own domestically produced cocaine into the United States. The U.S. government pressured reluctant Colum-

bian officials to seize their drug dealers, and the Colombian cocaine for methamphetamine suddenly became restricted. Then, according to Jack Frost, a DEA investigator, "the market began to reach out for other sources."

—PETER KIDMAN in Miami

Libya tightens its iron grip

By Masei McDonaki

As the residents of the shell-shocked Chadian capital of N'Djamena struggled through a shiverless national holiday that marked 20 years of government independence for the former French colony, transverse radar crisscrossed out the faithful heliport last week. President Hissène Habré's government forces had been routed from the strategic oasis of Faya-Largeau, 500 km to the north, after an unrelenting three-day bombardment by Libyan planes and tanks backing the rebel troops of former president Goukouni Oueddei.

What caused the rout was not the fact that, after six weeks of refusing to surrender, the French reluctantly decided to send 500 paratroopers as "insurgent-advisers." But the help was too little and too late. Indeed, the greatest irony of the latest conflict involving the 46 million impoverished inhabitants of the Sahara was that, by setting on Chad as a symbol of the West's determination to stop Libya's Col. Mo-

mar Khadafi, Washington and Paris may have painted themselves into a diplomatic corner. Committed now to ensure Habré's ultimate victory or else face the two powers risk becoming disastrously embroiled in a complex and apparently insoluble internal feud that French governments have failed to heal since granting Chad independence in 1960.

Certainly the biggest loser in Chad last week was not Habré but French President François Mitterrand, who was engaged in the final military question of his two-year-old regime. It was a humiliating, no-win situation for a leader who has long prided himself on his Third World apogeeism, who once berated his predecessors as "protectionist friends" for similar interventions and who vowed that he would never play Africa's game. For years France has carefully avoided squabbling with the internal Khadafi, who is not only one of its leading arms customers but also one of its most important suppliers. And for days Mitterrand balked at being cast as Washington's surrogate

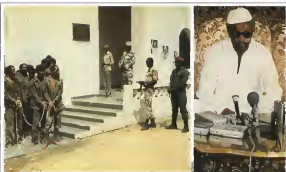
in the dispute with the Libyan leader. But the most influential figure of francophone Africa—President Félix Houphouët-Boigny of the Ivory Coast, Africa's Chief of State and Lt.-Gen. Maurice Bemé Soko of Senegal—have pleaded Chad's case in Washington in recent weeks. Mitterrand finally realized that what was at stake was no longer his own principles but nothing less than France's prestige among its former African colonies.

Indeed, as diplomatic observers stressed, without its web of alliances in Africa, France would be just another European country, stripped of its claim to influence on the world stage. Still, Mitterrand may have reached his decision too late to preserve the credibility of the French defensive umbrella among moderate African leaders who fear—more than Libya's expansion—abandonment by their main trading partner and source of aid. By initially refusing to send troops along with its 500 soldiers in military supplies to Habré, the French government seemed to be paralyzed by indecision. Even

Chadian troops at Faya-Largeau. Washington and Paris risk becoming disastrously embroiled in an intractable feud



Photo by AP Wirephoto



Libyan prisoners of war (left), Habré; Khadafi (right); a miserable wasteland of desert, a new stage for superpower struggle

worse, by dispatching the first of its 500 red-banded paratroopers to N'Djamena as instructors, not combatants, and with no accompanying air cover, France not only assured Habré's defeat at Faya-Largeau but appeared only half-committed to Chad.

Not only that, but the arrival of France's crack combat regiments as N'Djamena's blistering 48°C heat sparked outspoken criticism from Mitterrand's Communist partners in government as well as discreet dissipation from Third World ideologues within his own Socialist Party. As one Socialist official, who requested anonymity, said: "If you have to cast aside the alibi of nonintervention, then you have to act effectively and, clearly, action has been taken too late. The result is a catastrophe for France's image."

But France was not alone in suffering a tarnished image. President René Bregu's near-intervention at times threatened to transform Chad—a wasteland of desert—into a stage for another superpower struggle. By sending four AWACS electronic spy planes with F-15 fighter escort to the area and the carrier Dwight D. Eisenhower and Coral Sea toward Libya's Gulf of Sirte along with \$50 million in emergency aid, Reagan not only angered Mitterrand but at least one general within his own military establishment. Last week army Chief of Staff Gen. John A. Wickham Jr. protested that the country's defense resources were being stretched too thin. At a time of mounting criticism over U.S. intervention in Central

America, The Washington Post editorialized that most Americans could not even find Chad on a map.

Nor were Reagan's actions given concrete support by Egypt, a country that the president says is threatened by Libya's moves. Although Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has sent arms and supplies to rebel troops and branded Khadafi's invasion as "monstrous," he has refused to send troops. Indeed, the Egyptian press carefully played down the presence of 5,000 U.S. troops and two AWACS last week for the annual defense maneuvers (code-named Bright Star), denying any connection between the radar planes and the conflict in Chad. That appeared to be the reason that two other AWACS were sent to Khartoum in neighboring Sudan. While violently opposing Khadafi, Mubarak does not want to confront him directly, provoking the renewed wrath of other radical Arab states and endangering his own carefully negotiated policy in Africa.

Last week, however, after taking Faya-Largeau, Khadafi himself appeared to be ready to negotiate. Libya's official JANA news agency issued a series of invitations to a peaceful solution, an indication that Khadafi was becoming second thoughts about stalling his pres-

ture on the country where he has been disastrously embroiled before. Three years ago then president Goukouni Oueddei invited him to take over the defense of the country. But Khadafi was only too happy to withdraw his 30,000 troops under command. French and Chadian pressure after has since a year. The unpopular campaign had sapped Libyan army morale. Its ranks were rife with bitter stories of Chadians cutting off Libyan supplies. Moreover, the administration of a landlocked country that has no mineral resources or industry and one of the world's lowest per capita incomes proved to be so difficult that by the time the Libyans pulled out, Khadafi had been unable to pay civil service salaries or prevent the water, electricity or phone systems from collapsing.

Indeed, former French foreign minister Michel Jobert, for one, insists that Chad is unappealing and "less than suitable" as a political entity. With the nomadic Moslem desert tribes of the north historically hostile to the Christian cotton farmers of the south, no government has ever been able to control the entire territory. That makes it highly unlikely that either France or the United States can succeed where the nation's own leaders have failed.





Guatemalan troops, Mejia Victores a boss of support, a struggle, a proffered amnesty—and fear

GUATEMALA

How the old guard outgunned the young Turks

For the second time in 17 months, army troops and tanks, accompanied by the roar of planes and helicopters, surrounded Guatemala's National Palace last week. And, after a brief shootout, a new general occupied the president's office. Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores, the country's new leader, is the sixth consecutive general to rule Guatemala. The former defense minister succeeded the eccentric bible-thumping Rios Montt. And, as in previous coups, Mejia Victores swiftly pledged a transition to democratic rule and he said he will advance the date of elections previously scheduled for next July. Mejia Victores also lifted a long-running state of martial law imposed by Rios Montt, called a halt to government censorship of the press, and abolished special military tribunals established by his predecessor to try civilians under emergency conditions. In Washington, where the administration has been eagerly awaiting an opportunity to bring Guatemala into its Central America strategy, the U.S. state department, two days after the coup, and said that it fully supports Mejia Victores' promise to "reinstate the process of returning the country to democratic government."

But in Guatemala, where there have been 16 military governments since 1964, the reaction to the latest takeover was far cooler. Alejandro Maldonado, far one, the presidential candidate of the centrist Christian Democratic

Party in the March, 1982, election, dismissed the coup as a "mass administrative change." Spokesmen for leftist guerrillas, who have been fighting military rule for decades, declared that Mejia Victores' accession was a "personnel, not a political change." Kofmanism for last week's events, in fact, seemed largely confined to members of Guatemala's extreme right. Mario Sandoval Alarcón, leader of the country's pro-militarist National Liberation Movement (OLAN), hailed the coup as a step toward

"democratic elections." Rios Montt, he claimed, had "failed to contain subversion." The OLAN, by contrast, "would know how to clean up the country."

But even so army troops in full battle gear took up positions around key buildings in the capital, there were indications that this year's coup is far different from the one that brought Rios Montt to power in 1982. Last year's coup enjoyed widespread support from Guatemala's legal political parties and warm enthusiasm among the country's junior officer corps. That was because it followed a rigged presidential election staged by a discredited dictator, Gen. Fernando Romeo Lucas Garcia.

But Rios Montt, a fervent evangelist and a member of the Day Church of the Word, soon lost much of his support. Rios Montt delivered Sunday morning sermons on national television, crying hard work and clean living (including advice to Guatemalan officers to give up their mistresses). And he angered many Roman Catholic Guatemalans by supporting several members of his sect to high government office.

Last week's coup leaders said that Rios Montt's religious fanaticism was the main reason that they moved against him. But Rios Montt's real offenses were that he threatened the privileges enjoyed by the country's top-ranking officers and endangered, however obliquely, the interests of the

wealthy landowners and industrialists who support the army.

The former president, for one thing, had angered top-ranking officers by increasing the authority of junior commanders who direct operations against the country's left-wing insurgents. Rios Montt may also have made himself vulnerable to Guatemalan's elites by flirting with the idea of amnesty (and reform or an "opening") to the country's democratic left. By contrast, Mejia Victores is a hard-core 38-year veteran who identifies with the military's top echelons. That close association, and loyalty to Rios Montt, prompted many junior officers to oppose Mejia Victores during the overthrow. Besides the brief battle at the ornate green-marble National Palace (which left five dead and six wounded), there were other signs last week of the younger officers' discontent. The lieutenants and captains at one key military base in the capital initially refused to submit to Mejia Victores. Rios Montt himself intervened to prevent any full-scale breakdown of discipline. But for days after the coup many junior officers wore their camouflage uniforms inside out in repudiation of the new regime.

The promise of elections is unlikely to coax Congress to accede to President Ronald Reagan's request for \$70 million in aid for Guatemala in 1984. One obstacle is granting the assistance is the fact that Mejia Victores aligned Maryland Democrat Representative Clarence D. Long, the chairman of the House appropriations committee, during his visit to Guatemala last spring. The congressman denounced Guatemala's gross human rights record publicly—there have been more than 80,000 deaths in counterinsurgency battles or political murders since a CIA-backed coup in 1964. Then, Mejia denounced him as a virtual guerrilla sympathizer who was "too old" to understand Guatemala's problems. Last week Long, 74, declared: "I'm determined not to give the Guatemalan government any economic or military aid. We have better uses for our money."

Still, the Reagan administration hopes to enlist Guatemala's help in its crusade against what Washington believes is widespread leftist subversion in Central America. Indeed, Mejia Victores has already indicated that he is prepared to co-operate with Reagan. Last week he condemned Nicaragua's Sandinista regime as "a threat to the whole continent." He also hinted that he might withdraw U.S. bases on Guatemalan territory. But that concession might be more extreme than even Guatemala's old-line military establishment would accept.

—WILLIAM GRANT in Guatemala City, with Lewis Giffen in New York



merit

THE SIGNATURE OF SUCCESS

MERIT SUITS, SPORTSWEAR AND SHIRTS

A miracle of democracy

It was one of the most closely supervised elections in African history. Two days before about 25 million of Nigeria's 65 million eligible voters went to the polls on Aug. 6, in the first civil-civilian-organized presidential election since 1964, troops sat on roadblocks throughout the country to help 90,000 police search travelers for illegal weapons. Then on polling day almost one million electoral workers carefully monitored the voting process to prevent fraud. As the results trickled in from rural areas to the heavily guarded headquarters of the Federal Electoral Commission in the capital of Lagos, they were treated with the same careful scrutiny. At week's end the \$100-million-dollar effort appeared to have paid off. Rather than violence, and the completed election process seemed to have been completed with fewer irregularities than officials had expected. Said National Party of Nigeria's incumbent president Abacha Shehu Shagari, who was re-elected with an increased plurality of 43 per cent of the vote against 34 per cent in 1979: "It is a victory for all Nigerians. It is a victory for democracy."

Not everyone in the sprawling nation of 82 million people accepted the verdict. A spokesman for the United Party of Nigeria, whose candidate, Chief Obafemi Awolowo, came second with 308 per cent, charged that voting had been "trickery and manipulation." And Nigeria's People's Party candidate, Abacha Adesina, who finished third with 12.7 per cent of the vote, secured a court injunction that prevented the electoral commission from publishing returns from the north-central state of Anambra, because, he claimed, as many as one million of its supporters had been prevented from voting. Still, the election results will likely stand, and political passions will cool. Indeed, in a country wracked by severe economic recession, rampant tribalism and deep-rooted official corruption, stability has never been critical.

Nigeria, black Africa's richest and most populous nation, spent more than \$1 billion to ensure the vote's integrity, partly because it was anxious to set a good example for its less democratic neighbors. Seventeen from all six political parties were paid to watch the counting process. As well, the electoral commission issued sweeping regulations for polling day, ranging from stiff sentences for carrying dangerous weapons to the prohibition of face paint calculated to frighten voters. After-



Shagari voters supported the former schoolteacher's consultative style.

ward, conclusion Chairman Victor Olu-Whiskey claimed that "all those who wanted to vote, voted."

By removing Shagari's mandate, Nigerians endorsed the 58-year-old's consultative style and his efforts to spread the country's oil wealth among the nation's 200 tribes and ethnic groups. Shagari has also taken steps to involve all three main tribal groups—the Hausa, Yoruba and Ibo—in the political process, a crucial effort in a nation scarred by the savage Biafran civil war. Still, Shagari's turn in office has also coincided with a sharp recession caused by a global oil glut. Yearly revenues from

oil—Nigeria's principal export—have dropped from \$35 billion in 1980 to an anticipated \$10 billion this year. And despite his widely recognized personal honesty, Shagari has not managed to root out deep-seated official corruption, which swallows itself in a least every phase of Nigerian life.

But Shagari's victory also reflected resentment among young voters toward the old guard opposition, personified by Awolowo, 78, and Awolowo, 74. The two men have been nicknamed the "Dead hand of the first republic" for frustrated politics, a reference to their participation in the civilian government that fell in a military coup in 1966. Nigeria endured 15 years of army rule before returning to civilian rule with Shagari's 1979 election. Not only that, but members of the Ibo tribe, who constitute about 19 per cent of the population and who formed the Biafran separatist government, are still bitter about the erratic remark made by Awolowo, who was defense minister during the civil war: "Biafra is a weapon of war."

Indeed, personality counts, not issues, dominated the marathon seven-month campaign. Party platforms were virtually identical, with all leaders calling for economic reform and new agricultural and education programs. But behind the meager rallies and the extensive, sometimes adversarial—the small Nigeria Advance Party proceeded to rid the nation of rats, mosquitoes and "evil" Moslems. Obnoxious capitalist politicians—these was a widespread fear that the process would break down, forcing the military to step in.

The first test for Nigerian democracy came this month as voters returned to nearly 150,000 polling booths to elect state officials as well as federal representatives. Like last week's vote those decisions will be regarded by Nigeria's neighbors as a crucial test of African democracy. As the House Speaker Mervin Shabazz commented, "It is crucial that the Nigerian election succeed, to give impetus to the concept of parliamentary democracy in Africa." Shagari's anxious challenge is to keep that spirit alive. —JAMES MITCHELL in Toronto, with correspondence reports.

THE UNITED STATES

Reagan hunts for the Hispanic vote

Since last June President Ronald Reagan has repeatedly—and proudly—claimed that his administration contained 40 Hispanics. Then the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) began to suspect that the number was exaggerated and it opened its own investigation. In early August the LULAC reported that many of the 40 had left the government and one of those ousted by the president was his own driver. "I would think," said former LULAC president Tony Bonilla, "that after 400 years Hispanics ought to be entitled to something more than being charged to the president of the United States." As a result, Reagan, who is already trying to gain more support among women and blacks, last week launched a campaign to win over the Hispanics before next year's presidential election.

The president followed an exacting schedule in his quest. First he flew to Tampa, Fla., to address the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Then he stopped in Texas, where he announced a job-creating package for Hispanics, before travelling on to Mexico for discussions with President Miguel de la Madrid. These talks centred on the crisis in Central America—with de la Madrid opposed to many Reagan policies. But Reagan's presence south of the border in consultation with de la Madrid will help to gain him support from U.S. Hispanics. The White House also eagerly stresses that the president will be conferring "frequently" with Hispanic leaders this month while on vacation.

Reagan's sudden interest in the Hispanic community coincided with a nationwide door-to-door registration campaign by a Hispanic organization, the Non-partisan Voter Project. New Mexico Gov. Tony Anaya, a Democrat, says that the project's goal is to increase Hispanic voter registration from 34 million in 1980 to 4.4 million or more by election day in November, 1984. There are roughly 5.9 million Hispanic citizens of voting age in the United States, and that number increases by 100,000 a year. Political strategists of both parties have recognized their potential as a voting bloc in those states that are historically crucial to a presidential victory: Texas, New York, Florida and California.

In 1980 Reagan won between 35 and 39 per cent of the Hispanic vote—an unusually large portion of a bloc that has traditionally supported the Democrats. To be re-elected, he will have to repeat that performance. His anti-abor-



"A Heineken: that's exactly what I had in mind."

The fear of a bloodied minority

When race riots erupted in the small Indian Ocean island nation of Sri Lanka last month hundreds of people were killed, and thousands of others lost their homes and possessions. *Nation's* correspondent Peter Hainford witnessed much of the brutal confrontation firsthand. His report.

From his gleaming white palace in Colombo, Sri Lanka's President J.R. Jayawardene can look out on the devastation of his country. Only a block away the semi-circular shells of burned-out shops line Main Street, the capital's main shopping area. Indeed, guides now take foreigners to tours of the city's ruins. "The poor left you will

ry Sinhalese aggression.

Their fears have been heightened by the government's severe crackdown on opposition political parties, including the Tamil United Liberation Front. After Jayawardene claimed to have uncovered a Marxist plot to overthrow him, the government virtually deprived the Tamils of their voice in parliament by forcing U.L.F.F. MPs to abandon their support for a separate Tamil state or lose their seats. Not only that, but the government has accentuated sectarian divisions by transporting thousands of Tamil refugees from their homes in other parts of the country to the Tamil-dominated north.

It is now clear that Sinhalese perse-

ading one of the guards, then forced their way past guards at the front gate. After breaching open a liquor store, they began on an orgy of destruction against Tamil property. The attack appears to have been well organized. Two days before the breakout, Sinhalese households were advised to put up white "peace flags" to distinguish their homes from those of the Tamils. The official response to the outrage was to place the recruits under open arrest inside the compound, although the government had decreed that looters should be shot.

When security forces were not actually involved in terrorism, they often did little to prevent it. In Badulla, a normally sleepy market town on the eastern fringe of the central highlands, I saw a Sinhalese mob ransack and burn a Tamil shop. Police fired warning shots but took no further action. In the ancient city of Kandy tourists reported



Homeless Tamils lining up for food: grim warnings of more violence, revolutions of police brutality and murder in its entry

one of a group of Tamil houses that have been completely destroyed," the commentator says. "We shall presently be passing a market area that has been completely gutted."

Government spokesmen say that at least 302 Sri Lankans, mostly members of the Tamil minority, were killed in two weeks of rioting. In Colombo alone 90,000 people are now homeless. Finance Minister Ravi de Mel assessed industrial damage at \$100 million and he said that 150,000 people have lost their jobs. But statistics alone cannot measure the terrible toll. And no amount of foreign money, consent and fresh is likely to repair the shattered confidence of Sri Lanka's 2.7 million Tamils in the ability of the government to protect them against major-

eration of the Tamil minority was taking place days before the incident happened that is believed to have sparked the rioting. The immediate cause of the violence was widely accepted to be the July 23 murder by Tamil extremists of 13 government soldiers in an ambush in the northern town of Jaffna. But on June 4, Sinhalese soldiers broke into a liquor shop in the market square of the east coast town of Trincomalee and invited local thugs to loot it. Then together they rampaged through villages around the port, setting fire to Tamil property. Intermittent violence in the 90-per-cent Tamil towns continued until the night of July 26, when 120 young Tamil militants went berserk. In the absence of their commanding officer, they nailed the army in their barracks,

that police allowed a nightlong wave of arson aimed at Tamil property.

Meanwhile, the government has not produced any evidence to support its claim of a conspiracy between socialist politicians and Tamil extremists to create communal strife. Indeed, an alternative theory advanced by Western diplomats in Colombo is that the violence may have been stirred up by Sinhalese extremists in the cabinet who are anxious to force Jayawardene to step down.

So far, the government's policies have strengthened support for extremists on both sides of the conflict. Unless Jayawardene takes firmer steps to punish the guilty and compensate the innocent, he risks creating the conditions for an even more violent conflict. ☐

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PEOPLE

For 30-year-old singer **Burtis Cummings**, his interest in music has meant "being into records since I was two years old and having a record collection that goes back to 1909." Turning that interest into a successful musical career has allowed him to act out his fantasies and portray some of his favorite musicians from that collection—in full costume and makeup. For the recent taping of a musical-themed special for First Choice pay TV, scheduled for release this fall, Cummings underwent the ceremonial shaving of his 30-year-old moustache—and was transformed into the likes of **Steve Franks**, **Fats Domino** and **Ray Charles**. "I have always been a closet impressionist, mostly at drinks parties," said Cummings. And his impressions of original artists doing such pop standards as *Johnny B. Goode* and *Mary Queen of the Night* speak to the adage that practice makes perfect.

"Those are songs that I grew up with, songs that subconsciously, I think, led me into this business," said the former lead singer for *The Guess Who*. Doing the special has already spawned an idea for a sequel. He wants to try impressions of still more musical favorites, such as **Fats Papp** and **Udo Roeschell**. Said Cummings, "I'd like to do *American Women* in drag, a real tuffie number."

Sixty-two years ago, **Gail Timmins'** great-grandfather, Noah, discovered gold in a wilderness spot that was eventually named after him—Timmins, Ont. Now Gail, a stately, golden-haired actress, is hitting pay dirt in a less desolate location, New York City. The 30-year-old Timmins has just landed the part of Maggie Shelby, a new



Timmins: Ryan's Hope became a reality, and MacGillivray is just another kid

character on the ABC soap opera *Ryan's Hope*. Timmins says Maggie is "ambitious, very smart and quite-thinking." She won the role, she says, after she "just popped by" ABC and auditioned, along with 500 other hopefuls. She was determined to get the part despite the wrenching change of pace, so she returned home and studied herself on videotape for days before taking the screen test. Daytime TV is "brutal," says Timmins, like the streets of Manhattan. "You always have to watch out for what is in front of you." Last spring, directly in her path was another plane, a principal role in the film adaptation of *John Irving's* *Hotel New Hampshire*, which has not finished shooting in Montreal and will probably be released next February. Fellow cast members are **Katharine Kincaid** and **Jodie Foster**, who, relates Timmins, "are just like me."

A Score thirty-two battle for US nightly news ratings has been joined since *Twenty-Seven* Peter Jennings, 45, became the sole anchor and senior editor of ABC's *World News Tonight*. Drawing on 30 years of journalistic experience, Jennings, who was hired with the prospect of ousting CBS's *60 Minutes*, will be pitted head-to-head against NBC's *60 Minutes* and ratings leader *Donahue* of CBS in the latest contest to inspire U.S. news viewers. The debate, headlines Jennings, first noticed by ABC executives

when he was anchoring *The CBS News* in the early 1960s, discusses concerns that, as a Canadian, he will lack appeal for a "middle American" audience. But, he said, "we would be stupid to be cynical of the anchor's personality." Not content to rest on his laurels, earned at ABC by anchoring the anchor



Cummings: as himself (left) and as Johnny Mathis

position with on-the-scene reports from the Middle East and Poland, Jennings plans to continue taking *World News Tonight* on the road. His projected in-depth coverage, however, is unlikely to include reports from Ottawa during the next Canadian federal election. Jennings said that he has a professional interest in Canadian politics "only insofar as it impacts on the trading state of Canada-US relations." As for his opinion of new Conservative Leader **Brian Mulroney**, now getting up for ratings war of his own against Prime Minister **Pierre Trudeau**, Canadian citizen Jennings declared, "Frankly, I've more interest now in [Democratic] John Glenn and Mikhail Gorbachev." □



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Jennings' 'middle American' appeal?





Cotton farmers: the program is an administrative nightmare, costly for the taxpayer and a windfall for rich farmers

BUSINESS

The high costs of leaving fields fallow

By Lenny Glynn

When it was introduced this spring, following one of the grimmest years ever for American farmers, the U.S. department of agriculture's Payment in Kind (PIK) program appeared to be a silver bullet. It was a government effort that actually amounted to give taxpayers' money and solve two critical problems at once. The proposal was simple: Instead of paying farmers cash to leave excess crop lands idle in order to sell off staggering surpluses of wheat, corn, cotton and rice, the government would offer them shipments of the commodities from its own bulging reserves. Farmers would be free to rent the goods to use the grain for cattle feed. As a result, the government's reserves would dwindle, saving taxpayers both cash and interest on storage costs. Farmers, in turn, would be able to sell wide huge tracts of land—and still receive sizable crops. "It's so good that farmers can't believe it," said Darrel Good, a University of Illinois farm economist last March. "Christmas came early."

PIK, in short, sounded too good to be true—and it was. Now, the program is at the centre of a controversy about the

exploding cost of federal farm support programs. All told, U.S. farmers are expected to reap nearly \$20 billion this year from a variety of government subsidies—more than five times the level of outlays when the Reagan administration took office in 1981. PIK, critics charge, has become a major part of the problem, not its solution. It is, agricultural officials concede, proving to be an administrative nightmare—and far from cost-free to taxpayers. Worse still, PIK is proving to be a huge windfall for rich farmers and agribusinesses. And finally, while the program does promise to slash U.S. farm surpluses, especially of cotton and rice, it is not stopping production nearly as much as expected. Says Nancy Kneibman, a Republican senator from Kansas, "PIK is not doing what it was intended to be an economic problem."

For all that, PIK has enjoyed a high level of

participation. When the program was set up Agriculture Secretary John Block expected that a previous offering of \$50,000 in federal subsidies for individual farmers should be tried to encourage them to join the program. The ceiling was lifted, but it did not have to be. Given the option to receive 80 to 90 per cent of their expected profits from the program without the expense of pesticides, fertilizers and fuel, not to mention wage—more U.S. farmers signed on with PIK than have ever participated in any government program. Combined with similar cash grants designed to keep farmland idle, PIK set a record total of \$23 million acres fallow.

But because most farmers chose to leave only their least fertile lands idle—sometimes adding extra fertilizer to the rest—the production has not fallen nearly as much as predicted. With 18 per cent of the crop land unused, winter wheat output is

Conservative PIK critic



down just eight per cent. Still more unsettling is the possibility that of the \$50 million bundle of wheat that the government is expected to distribute to farmers under PIK, as much as 90 per cent may simply be "recycled" back into federal price support programs. That will cut any savings on storage costs and further increase the total subsidy bill—which is already equal to all other income that U.S. farmers make on their crops.

Indeed, both government officials and farmers fear that the mounting agricultural subsidy bill may lead to a potential backlash from city dwellers. At a recent meeting of California farmers, Everett G. (Bud) Bask Jr., the chief administrator of the PIK program, said, "We can't expect the American taxpayer to keep subsidizing agriculture. We farmers built about welfare and we all have our hands out." The desire to preserve the core of agricultural programs has, in fact, moved several major farm organizations to suggest a freeze on federal subsidies and reductions in loan price-support levels for wheat in order to head off any attacks on those programs.

The most controversial aspect of PIK is that windfalls are being made from the program by highly profitable farms. In California's San Joaquin Valley, one of the richest stretches of farmland in the world, agribusiness beneficiaries of PIK include such conglomerates as Tensco, Chevron U.S.A., Superior Oil, Shell and the Rancho Punta Corp. Rich farmers, too, stand to gain—among them, ironically, Bask himself. In return for selling 200,000 bushels of wheat to the federal government, Bask and his partners are entitled to receive 13 million lb of federal surplus cotton—worth more than \$1 million. Such lapses in timing save and save among agribusinesses, even some who benefit from PIK themselves. Says Ronald Stoddard, president of the Nebraska Wheat Growers Association, "The moneyed people are making money."

PIK's only real advantage, in fact, may be that, unlike U.S. farmers would almost certainly have produced a price-crashing glut this year, on top of last year's bumper harvest which led to widespread bankruptcies and foreclosures. In the long term U.S. policymakers must develop an agricultural program that cushions an ag sector that U.S. farmers are simply too productive that their output will likely run beyond demand for years to come. Programs like PIK only mask that crisis, but with the 1984 election looming and moral votes in the farm belt at stake, there is little chance of an effective policy emerging soon. That politically painful issue may have to wait until after the polling booths close on Nov. 6. □

A second look at a bad debt



Point in Red Deer: was political favoritism and reason for granting it a loan?

The short conversation appeared innocuous. Red Deer lawyer James Foster stopped for a brief chat with Alberta Premier Peter Lougheed in July, 1982, at a prearranged Conservative party agricultural policy conference. Foster, a former attorney general in Lougheed's cabinet, told the premier that he was acting for Ranco Steel Corp., a firm that wanted an \$8-million loan from the Alberta Opportunity Co. (AOC), a government-funded agency that backs high-risk businesses that have been turned down by banks and other lenders. Lougheed later said that he had three dozen conversations like the one with Foster during the policy meeting. But when an informant told Alberta's NDP Opposition about it last spring the encounter became the spark for an uproar.

The chat between the two men produced results. Ram Steel was given the loan. But the company now has been forced into receivership, and the loan details surfaced last week when the Alberta legislature's select committee on the Heritage Savings Trust Fund—the \$10-billion ill-fate loan and capital trust run that bankrupted the AOC—began its inspection of the fund's affairs.

The announcement of the deal—by the largest in the AOC's 16-year history—came just before last November's provincial election. Ram used the funds to complete a state-of-the-art plant in Red Deer for production of steel pipe and casing for the oil industry. But the oil slump paid too great a burden for Ram. In February the company laid off

39 of its 120 employees, and late last month the Canadian Commercial Bank, seeking payments on its \$25 million in loans, forced Ram into receivership, and there is little chance that the province will recover its \$8 million.

Lougheed and his ministers have so far refused to accept any blame for the deal. Last spring the premier assured the legislature that "there was no preference or priority given to representatives by Mr. Foster in this particular case." Tourism and Small Business Minister Al Adair also insisted that the government is innocent. Still, he acknowledged that, "With the benefit of hindsight, the situation did not unfold as anticipated."

The NDP argues that too many questions remain unanswered and it is determined to raise the issue again when Lougheed appears before the select committee next month. Included in its many questions the NDP will raise is the issue of why, if the loan was not a political decision, so many cabinet ministers and a senior official in Lougheed's office held a long series of private meetings with several individuals and companies involved in the deal. For its part, the government refuses to reveal details to avoid alarming potential buyers of Ram's assets. One of the possible buyers—Rogers-based Interprovincial Steel and Pipe Corp.—announced last week that it was not interested in Ram, and it now appears that the receiver's work will be no easier than the task of controlling the political damage.

—PETER G. ORRIS in Edmonton.

Staying away from home

Dewey Dee's departure from the Philippines was quiet, but the flamboyant Manila industrialist's absence was quickly noticed. The estimated \$85 million worth of bank debt that the textile tycoon left behind caused chaos in the country's financial system, spurring the collapse of several small financial institutions, and forced President Ferdinand Marcos' government to take steps to restore the country's fiscal order. Whether the Philippines and Dee's creditors are able to settle his accounts now hinges on his fight to gain refugee status and remain in Canada, where he has lived since leaving Manila in late 1989.

Last week Dee filed a request that the Immigration Appeal Board in Vancouver overturn rulings by the federal government's Refugee Status Advisory Committee and the Special Review Committee that he cannot remain in Canada. The appeal has at least delayed the possibility of his return home to face more than 174 charges.

Dee apparently used his prominent Filipino-Chinese family's assets, as well as his own success in the textile trade, to raise large loans before leaving the Philippines. Dealing with bankers in the country's Chinese-Pilipino banking



Dee: refugee status proves elusive

system—which often requires paperwork to avoid regulators—Dee was able to secure millions of dollars for himself and his firms without the need to put up large amounts of collateral.

Thus for reasons known only to himself, Dee fled the Philippines. His steps

included Haiti and Costa Rica before he arrived in Vancouver through the United States and settled in suburban Richmond on a visitor's visa last December. Because Canada does not have an extradition treaty with the Philippines, the destination was a safe one. But Dee was faced with immigration problems when his visa expired in February. Because landed immigrant status can only be regained from outside Canada, refugee status became his only hope of remaining in the country. But the review panels did not agree that he meets their criteria for becoming a landed immigrant, which is basically that he would face the danger of persecution because of religion, race or political belief if he returned home.

For his part, the Philippines government is refusing comment about the affair. But Manila is believed to be quietly lobbying Ottawa for Dee's return. That is not likely to happen, if at all, until Dee, who is not speaking for public consumption either, exhausts all the routes of appeal, including the Federal and Supreme Courts of Canada. And with the Philippines government considering adding charges of economic sabotage—as offenses that would be punishable by death—to the numerous fraud charges, Dee will want to extend his stay in Canada as long as possible.

—RAY AUSTIN in Toronto

BUSINESS WATCH

Spar's soaring success in space

By Peter C. Newman

Most Canadians think that buying a ticket to *The Return of the Jedi* may be their only admission to the space age. In fact, 58 Canadian companies, eight universities and five government departments maintain world-class space research facilities, and the Maple Leaf is about to go into even more impressive orbit.

The organization leading the way to the stars is Spar Aerospace Ltd., which was world attention for constructing the 50-foot-long artificial arm that lifted out of the U.S. space shuttle in November, 1985. The astronauts reported that it was accurate to within half an inch while maneuvering at two feet per second from the spacecraft—even though the instrument's workman was so fragile that it could not be fully tested on Earth. "Like the story about the male dancer who trained his acrobats by first whacking them on the nose to get their attention," says Spar's Senior Vice-President John MacNaughton, "the success of the space arm was just a means of establishing our presence in space."

At the moment, Spar is building a third space arm for the Americans as well as the revolutionary solar power strapping to half the length of a football field, that will drive Olympus, the powerful communications satellite to be launched by the European Space Agency in 1988. Spar has also completed a National Research Council contract to determine Canada's participation in NASA's planned space station.

These and other activities have turned Spar into a profitable growth stock, with a 1983 net income of \$6.6 million—up nearly 300 per cent since the year before. (The company managed to retire more than a third of its long-term debt at the same time.) The brainchild of Larry Deacon Clarke, a naval electronics veteran who became a lawyer and spent 15 years as an executive at de Havilland before founding his own company in 1967, Spar now spends \$4 million a year on research and employs 2,000. Among other innovations, the company is adapting the space arm to make a robot that could repair leaking CANOE reactors.

Spar evolved from appropriating space research segments of de Havilland, RCA, Northern Telecom and Astro Research Corp. of California. The company's more prosaic activities—and steady money-makers—include over-

haul and repair contracts for commercial and military air fleets in Canada, Brazil, Nigeria and half a dozen other countries, as well as building helicopter parts for Sikorsky, Boeing Vertol and Westland. Spar has contributed in every Aids in Canada's own satellite program and recently won a contract from Hughes Aircraft as a major subcontractor for the new generation Intelsat space systems, due to be launched in 1990.

Spar's most daring international coup was winning the \$348-million con-



Clarke: 250-satellite market waits

tract to build two satellites for Brazil. The Canadian proposal, which combined Spar's know-how with Telesat Canada, HDS Systems Inc. of Burlington, Ont., and Hughes Aircraft of California, came in cheaper than the bid from the government-backed French syndicate, Aerospatiale. But France had the political clout. "They lost because of their arrogance," says MacNaughton of Spar. "They did their marketing at the top political levels without selling the system from the bottom up."

Not only was the head of the competing French company a brother of France's president, Francois Mitterrand, but the Parisians offered Brazil much higher industrial efforts and industrial materials with local politicians. When the French bid was returned to get an article published in the *Journal du Brazil* with the headline "Spar knows nothing about satellites," the Canadians countered by ensuring that a reporter for the competing *O Globo* reviewed the proposals of the French and built satellite failure in India. The contract was finally awarded on May 5, 1982. At the time of the announcement, the French ambassador was so agitated that Don Mayson, Spar's vice-president for business development, had to leave the Brazilian officials' office by a separate exit.

Spar Chairman Clarke estimates that between now and the end of the century the free world will launch about 250 communications satellites and that during the next decade 500 satellites will be spent in space. He intends to grab at least five per cent of this market and is counting on continued support from Ottawa to make it happen. "The government," he says, "has an extremely powerful and positive role to play—not in business but in support of business. That's a small but critical distinction. Just as highways provided the means for the greatest freedom ever known to people through the automobile, as government programs designed to help private entrepreneurs exploit new markets will revolutionize the economy—which must be market driven, for only then will it be truly productive."

It was the initiative (and \$110 million) from the National Research Council that first set Spar into the space business. The headline was could not have been achieved without the aggressive support of Francis Fox, the minister of communications who is also acting as an Information and Space Research Development Institute for the federal government. Spar has received \$25 million in government grants since its inception, but Clarke maintains that it has returned the investment 30-fold. "The final link that we have been seeking for more than 20 years," he says, "is a single government department with a clear mandate for the definition, development and direction of a national space program."

Spar's record proves that, for once, Ottawa and business can co-operate—even if it is extraterrestrially.

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A promising run-up to Los Angeles

The noise itself was a masterpiece. Long jumper Viktoriye Makl-manzarovskiy, 188-lb. Finnish for the world's first-ever non-Olympic track-and-field championships. Moscow's first-ever world record in the event, a time that only 50 men in history have beaten. Kratochvil's square-jawed, muscular appearance kept alive rumors that the Czechs have developed an undetectable form of testosterone, a male hormone.

Drug testing at the championships



Canadian high jumper Olaf Oberg searching for supporters

Through Saturday Canada's best individual result was fourth place in the 110-m hurdles from Mark McKoy, a 31-year-old Tennessee. Clearly now, the country was afflicted by a wave of fifth-place finishes. On opening day Montreal's demolitive discus thrower, 20-year-old Canadian, 200, ran fifth in the women's 400-m race. Monday, Toronto's Angela Bailey, 31, was 6th with a personal best time in the 100-m dash before starting off the women's relay team in a fifth-place finish in the 4x100-m race on Wednesday. Even Maria Payne, 22, who broke her own Canadian record for the third time in two weeks, finished fifth in the 800-m sprint. Payne, though, emerged from the championship as Canada's best bet for a medal at next year's Los Angeles Olympics. Her 50:05-second time for the one-day race had Canadian Track and Field Association (CTFA) officials searching for supporters. Payne's time is also a North American U.S. women have even come close. Said the CTFA's technical director, Tom MacWilliam: "It is also a Commonwealth record, a

was the most stringent ever, despite the \$1,000 cost of each test. Commonwealth throwers in particular were watched closely, the suspicion being that many had slipped using strength-enhancing fluid steroids long enough before the event to avoid detection and consequent suspensions. World record holder Dita Hayer of East Germany dominated much in the men's shot put. Neither of Canada's posters made the final.

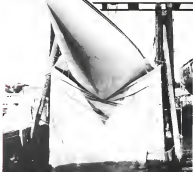
Despite the fact that Canada had yet to win a medal, Canadian head coach

Gerard Mach of Ottawa found some comfort: "In the first three days, we had seven medals for 11 events," he said, totting up those Canadian in the spotlight in the world in their event who qualify for Sport Canada's highest level of funding. "And we had 10 male semifinals for 8 events." One disappointment was Oberg, who was ranked seventh in the high jump last year. Oberg had trouble with takeoff and above the bar force, clearing 2.30 m, finishing in sixth place.

Few of the capacity crowd of 68,000 people noised all this. Their eyes were on Helsinki native Tamas Kerekes a Lillak, the classically round-faced world-record holder who guaranteed himself Finnish immortality with a last-minute win in the javelin for the best country's first gold medal. But for Mach, the men's 4x100m relay team was the most severe disappointment. Tony Sharpe, 32, of Toronto, running the final leg in the heats and waiting to give triple gold medalist Curt Lewis of the United States in the lane beside him a test, left his son Derek Williams, 16, of Toronto, straining at the end of the third lap curve, could not catch up before the baton was thrown. Sharpe had run beyond the 30-m exchange zone. The officials' red flag dashed the reasonable dream of a silver medal behind the Americans, who went on to the final and set a world record. "Sharpe did not follow what has to be done," said Mack, who

applied for Poland in the 1988 Olympics and is the architect of Canada's rise to respectability in the sports. Yet Mack remains optimistic about Sharpe and the others (Williams, Ben Johnson, 21, and 27-year-old Albie Maltsev, who ran a brilliant second leg). "They are still young," he said. "With work they will be better for the 1984 Olympics and even on to 1988." For Canadians looking for the first Olympic track-and-field medal since 1892, that is good news indeed.

—ANDY BRAW
in Helsinki



Australia 34 Newport berth controversy over the keel has changed the topic

America's Cup's bottom line

During most Newport summer local debates over the

issue the yacht's stability. Charged the SYC: "It follows that Australia is not fairly rated."

It is the racing, or measuring, of the yacht that is the key to the controversy. The 12-Meter classification is not a reference to length but to the end result of a complicated rating system that takes into account such things as sail area, displacement, length and width. The SYC contends that the new mystery keel's loss, or wings, give it extra stability, which adds to its draft. When the draft is taken into the rating, the SYC claims, the yacht rises at 12,476 or even as much as 12.8 m.

Essentially, the SYC wanted the yacht penalized, either by forcing it to drop out, reducing its sail area or modifying the keel to slow the boat down. But, declared Warren Jones, the operations manager for Australia 34: "What they are doing now is not just being difficult. It is so badly biased and unfair that bad sportsmanship, in raising it in the middle of a regatta, that it looks horribly low to it because we are going too fast."

The SYC has protested against any

penalties in the design of foreign yachts in past years, and now for Cup competition has been changed, but usually after the race. The last issue will most likely be examined after the races are over at this November's annual meeting of the international racing association, and most likely it will be settled.

On the eve of a series event last Thursday, the measurement committee for the Cup ruled that "in the opinion of the majority of the committee, the keel of Australia 34 is legal." But the Americans are continuing to press their case and have applied to the International Yacht Racing Union in London to enter the dispute and measure Australia 34. The international union is reluctant to join the fray, but if the Americans persist, it may have to rule on the matter before the final races start on Sept. 13.

Meanwhile, the foreign challengers were urged by a practice the U.S. competitors have adopted. U.S. syndicates have had their yachts measured each time they make modifications and have the certificates. By keeping all the certificates, they are able to report their configuration to the race committee the night before a race to take advantage of various weather conditions. American Cup teams give nothing away to Formula One pit crews in speed, and if a yacht needs 200 lb. of ballast because light winds are predicted for the next day, that can be done, and there is a certificate ready. The practice has even caused indignation in the U.S. skipper of the 1985 12-Meter, 1985 Commodore John R. Kneass said, "If the sailor says it's doing it, then we have to be competitive. We look forward to having this declared illegal." It was the idea of Dennis Connor, skipper of Liberty. He says that the practice is legitimate and legal.

Despite the controversy last week, Canada's 17 team went ahead and called the yacht's days as a 12-Meter. "She sails rates 12:30 and something," said designer Bruce Kirby. After qualifying for the 1986, which will eliminate two of the four remaining yachts, Canada's 17 team owner crew put a "wedge," or hole, in her keel. About 800 lb. of lead was removed and another 800 lb. shaved from the keel's leading edge. The boat was dropped by 10 to 15 inches, Kirby said. "We've moved her down about three knots." The yacht was modified just before the heavy winds arose last Thursday, and when Canada 17 sailed out to meet the Australians she lost two 10s, and almost lost a crew member, before winning the race. The four-year-old round robin will continue through this week into next, but the controversies of Newport's summer of '86 will last much longer.

—EDWARD BLYNDEN in Newport

ALFRED SUNG: THE NEW KING OF FASHION

By Gillian MacKay

Is a recent window display at Lip-tan's clothing store in downtown Toronto, a life-size photo of fashion designer Alfred Sung peered out at passers-by from behind an eight-foot-high Venetian blind. An artificial hand pulled the slats to reveal only his eyes and nose, and a pair of black Chinese shoes protruded from the bottom. Black mannequins dressed in sumptuous grey and burgundy ensembles from the Toronto-based designer's fall collection completed the eye-catching tableau, and a small sign inquired curiously, "Have you seen Sung yet?" Indeed, he would be difficult to miss. In four years Alfred Sung has soared from the relative obscurity of a small, housewife-clothes maker to the hottest name in the \$5 to \$100 Canadian fashion industry.

Throughout North America, thousands of fashion-conscious women are sporting his crisply tailored suits during the day and his silky silks at night. The cool, sophisticated look of Alfred Sung is everywhere. Sung designs, which range in price from \$118 to \$359, adorn such high-profile women as Jane Campagna, Margaret Trudeau and Conservative Leader Brian Mulroney's wife, Milla. "He is our own Yves St. Laurent," said fashion expert Kyrstina Griffiths, former president of Toronto's exclusive Hamilton Lane shopping centre. Sung, 35, has vaulted far above the drab anonymity reserved for most domestic designers, partly as a result of the most aggressive marketing campaign in the history of the Canadian fashion industry. It features splashy ads in the U.S. fashion bibles *Vogue* and *Women's Wear Daily*. Since he joined forces with Toronto business partners Sam and Joseph Mirman (aged 33 and 30 respectively) in 1979 to create what is now the Mirman Group, retail sales of Sung's fashions have doubled annually to a projected \$30 million in 1983, half of which is earned in the United States.

New Sung and his partners are planning a campaign to capture an even larger share of the U.S. market. During the next five years the group will open 20 Alfred Sung boutiques across the United States, the first next month in Washington's trendy Georgetown Park. As Rydell Young, fashion editor of *Women's* magazine, put it, "They're dynamite. They're streaks

ahead of everybody else." Added Bonnie Glavett, editor of *Fiber* magazine, "Alfred Sung is the biggest success story in the history of the Canadian fashion industry ever."

Rivaling the strategies of U.S. fashion experts like Calvin Klein and Bill Blass—whose signatures on everything from underwear to chandeliers produce instant profits—the Mirman brothers are building a business empire on the strength of what they sometimes refer to as simply "The Name." In addition to the designer's 300-piece fall-winter collection of sportswear that is entering the stores now, Sung has introduced a line of coats and accessories, including gloves, belts and hats. Sung and his assistants designed the products under license to outside manufacturers, and they represent the first wave of a potential flood of Sung merchandise that could include menswear, children's wear, shoes, sheets and perfumes. If the licensing, the boutiques and a newly introduced, lower-priced line called Sungpet, with prices ranging from \$30 to \$150, prove as fast as the Mirman project, sales will reach as high as \$60 million by 1985. Predicts Joseph Mirman, "There is no stopping Alfred Sung now. He is going to be a superstar."

In many ways, it is an unlikely partnership—the quiet, shrewdly Shanghaied Sung teamed with the down-to-earth, Moroccan-born Jews whom he calls "the boys" (page 38). But in the unstable fashion industry, where relations between designers and manufacturers are often as short-lived as a Las Vegas marriage, the youthful team appears unusually solid. Most Canadian fashion designers work in relative obscurity and isolation, but Sung has managed to find business partners with the daring and shrewdness to promote him across North America. For their part, the Mirmans discovered something equally valuable in Sung. He combines a classic feeling for line and detail, learned at the respected Chambre Syndicale de la Couture Parisienne in Paris, with a highly practical feel for the middle-of-the-road North American market.

Sung is not an ivory-tower designer. He is acutely conscious of such mundane factors as comfort, affordability and the conservative tastes of his affluent, career-oriented customers. His



rich, subtle colors are painstakingly coordinated to give buyers the maximum flexibility to mix and match within the current collection and often with pieces from his previous seasons. His shapes are clean, uncluttered and easy to wear. Milla Mulroney wore two Sung suits during her husband's successful campaign for the party leadership. "I like the use of color," she said, "and the clothing is not trendy." Said *Women's* editor Young: "Almost anyone can wear the clothes. There is nothing outrageous about them. His success comes from taking something very conservative and giving it his own panache."

That distinctive touch is evident in the high-quality fabrics, sometimes designed by Sung himself. The distinction is also displayed in the fee relationship of topdressing on the suit collar of a silk blouse, in the rich detail of leather accents on a plaid jacket or the trim out of a pair of jeans. Theodore Beverly Buckner, fashion editor of *Only Women* magazine: "The secret of Alfred Sung is that he is a perfectionist. His clothes show his passion for order."

Stil, Sung is not a fashion innovator in a league with Giorgio Armani or Karl Lagerfeld, and some critics see him as more of a business than a design success. Says Leon Moonahan, fashion editor of the *Montreal Gazette*: "The way he has been put out on the market is brilliant. He may have a slightly computerized quality, but I suppose that's his business." Some women complain that his ardor for perfection can be boring, but the designer himself disagrees. "Classic, not boring," is how he defines his style. Said Sung: "I want the clothes to be beautiful but so subtle that they don't jump out at you the first time you see them. I like a kind of understated elegance."

Alfred Sung has his finger on the pulse of the mass market, but his personal style is one of extreme elegance. On a typical working day this summer he wore a loose-fitting beige Gianni Versace jacket over a roll-necked linen shirt which he designed himself. Pink gold Cartier rings adorn both hands, and a gold Cartier watch and slim gold tie bracelet gleam on his wrists. But to counteract any impression of slickness, the 5-foot, 4-inch designer also wears knee-length army shorts, bright white ankle socks and \$16 sneakers. The outfit, surprisingly, does not look out-of-date.

Utterly charmed in the world of fashion, Sung lives by himself in a modest duplex in Toronto's Riverdale district. He gets up at 7 a.m. to walk his beloved Chinese show dog, Ming. At 10 a.m. he goes to Mirman headquarters in down-



Sung fitting models evening wear: He is the biggest success story in the history of the Canadian fashion industry. (over)

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town Toronto. He works uninterrupted through the day, pausing only for naps and cigarette breaks. A perfectionist, he often asks his six assistants to go over their designs again and again until he approves. Says his friend Rod Kruger, assistant designer for the Hong Kong line: "He is not easy on himself, so he is not easy on everyone else." In the evenings he works at home or relaxes by reading interior design magazines and biographies of movie stars. His other pastimes are shopping, particularly in shoe stores such as Manhattan's Susan Berman Warren Edwards—where he recently spent \$1,600 (US) on three pairs of lizard-skin loafers—and eating out with friends at fashionable spots such as Toronto's 11 Post and New York's L'Express. Sung, a gentle and unselfish man, is comfortable in the role of a celebrity and he prefers to spend time with old friends, whom he often treats to dinner and expensive gifts. He reads newspapers or watches TV. He is as ill-informed about the world that one night at a Toronto restaurant he asked Boskovich-born Kruger: "Are there poor neighborhoods in New York where black people live?" Kruger

plains Kruger: "He is totally wrapped up in his creative environment." In his small living room, surrounded by art objects—a lacquered screen from Hong Kong, an antique bust of a woman's head from Florence, a wooden folk-art cradle from Quebec—Sung speaks excitedly about an approaching major event in his life—a period movie to New York City. One month ago Sung rented a spacious, light-filled loft apartment in Greenwich Village, where he will live six months of the year. Although the Monaco Group will remain based in Toronto, the design studio for Sung's own collection and for Hong Kong will now be located on legendary Seventh Avenue, the heart of Manhattan's famous garment district. When Toronto friends ask him why he so eagerly exchanges the security of Canada, where he is on top of his profession, for the New York jungle, Sung tells about his ambition to "make it" in the United States. Then, his tranquil expression changes to a look of stubborn determination. Creaking a fist, he declares: "I know it is highly competitive, but that will make me work harder. I don't think it's a good thing when you're too secure." A disciplined, obsessive worker, Sung often speaks like a glibby school-

boy who has neglected his homework. Although his favorite expression is "I always try my best," he admits that he does not quite believe it. Speaking of the past, as he frequently does, in the present tense, he reminisces: "I suppose it has a lot to do with my upbringing. My parents always told me to try harder. I'll bring back a report card, my father always says, you can do better."

Born in Shanghai on April 26, 1948, Sung Wang Moon (Mandarin Chinese for "a dove in the cloud") was an obedient child who still had difficulty pleasing his demanding father. When Alfred was 4, his father abandoned a thriving tobacco business in China and fled from the Communist-controlled mainland with his family to Hong Kong. In the British colony he prospered as an importer of wooden toys and furnished his eight children with Victorian-style names such as Florence, Viola and Alfred. As the brothers ask, Alfred was early parented and seldom allowed to play outside or ride bicycles with his friends. To soothe his indoors, his mother encouraged him to paint and draw, pastimes for which he displayed an early talent.

Sung was close to his mother, but he was afraid of his father, and he and his brothers and sisters used to hide from him. He was born left-handed, and his father used to let the offending hand until the boy learned to do everything with his right—except manoeuvre chopsticks—a skill he could never master. His parents hoped that he would choose a profession or career in business. But when he graduated from a British-run private boys' school at 17, he announced his intention to become a painter. Alarmed by that prospect, his father agreed to an older sister's suggestion that Alfred go to Paris to learn the fashion business. As with everything else in the young man's life, the decision was made for him. At that point, he did not know anything about fashion—nor did he care.

Loving Hong Kong for the first time, Sung arrived in Paris in September, 1966, speaking no French and knowing no one except a friend from Hong Kong with whom he shared a modest apartment. For the first three months he was so homesick that he pleaded with his parents in his letters to allow him to return. At the costume school, he stood out awkwardly in his British schoolboy clothes, and teachers ridiculed him for his appearance. When they asked him to create original designs, he drew inspiration from the only fashion authority he had seen in Hong Kong—Queen Elizabeth. "In my early work, I would always draw people wearing these funny hats," he recalled, "and my teacher would go crazy and draw a big X through them."

Gradually, over the course of many late nights, the young student mastered the old-fashioned couture arts of draping, cutting and sewing garments by hand. At the same time, he began to dazzle his teachers with his inventive solutions to such design assignments as "Create a wardrobe for Audrey Hepburn to wear during a walk at Cannes." By the time he graduated in June, placing first in design and third in sewing, Sung was freely lauded on his career path. And he had overcome his homesickness so successfully that he did not return to Hong Kong until 1972. By that time, he was a successful designer for a young newswave in New York. In keeping with the fashion of the era, he served booze with water-length hair, high-heeled silver shoes and brightly appliquéd jeans. His parents looked at him—and burst into tears.

Sung's move to Toronto the same year was a matter of necessity rather than choice. After a year of study at New



Pal aufer cool and sophisticated look.



Joseph (left) and Saul Minnra at Minnra headstays/very quality and heavy promotion

The power behind the designs

When Morocco declared independence from France in 1956, the four members of the Minnra family, along with hundreds of other prosperous Moroccan Jews, decided to emigrate from the emerging Arab state. Arriving at the Toronto bus terminal not far from Chinatown, they were confused to find little else around them but Chinese restaurants. They wandered through the city until Esther Minnra, a dress designer trained in Cambridge, finally discovered Simpson's department store. Realizing her son Saul, then 7, "Saw loved it. From then on, we were stay."

Saul's father, Elia, worked as an order processor for a major food wholesaler, and his mother kept up her interest in fashion through dressmaking and eventually freelance designing for Spadina Avenue manufacturers whose low-quality mass-production techniques she despised. One evening in 1958, after a manufacturer refused to pay for dress designs that he had ordered, Saul decided that they should go into business for themselves.

At that time, Saul was already adept at marketing. He had dropped out of Toronto's York University at 20 in 1970 to become a rock promoter. With \$2,000 borrowed from his father, he set up U.S. pop singer Laura Nyro's first Toronto concert, then went on to organize the Strawberry Fields Rock Festival at Masport, outside Toronto, which attracted 300,000 fans. But the dress-cutting, who lived at home until he was 25, wanted a more stable life. As a result, when he was 25 he went to work as

a salesman for an *adidas* firm for three years.

Saul's career in the fashion business was a success from the start. It began as a family affair. Rather than design the well-made, medium-priced dresses and Saul said then—telling store buyers that he employed a French designer. He seldom revealed that the designer was his mother. Saul's younger brother, Joseph, then a part-time charter school student, kept the books on weekends. When Joseph joined the business decisively in 1977, he insisted that they should move from the fringe, uncomfortable premises of Spadina into their present spacious quarters and diversify into the high-growth area of designer sportswear. Their business philosophy was antithetical: early, high-quality manufacturing and heavy promotion of a designer label. Realizing Elia's natural boyish Marnie Gibson: "I could use right away they had their set together. This was no secret in the day."

Saul, a smooth talker, promoted sales, and the more sophisticated Joseph took charge of finance and product development. The brothers made a dynamic team. Contrasting the kitchen-table boardroom flavor of the early years, they still meet with their wives and children to talk business over dinner on most Sunday nights. Their father, 61, now works for Minnra managing imports and exports and Esther, 57, though she no longer designs, is a frequent visitor to the firm's offices. As Saul puts it: "This is what I always wanted. To make it as a family unit." G.M.

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York's prestigious Parsons School of Design in 1967-1968, he worked briefly for four years on Seventh Avenue as he tried, unsuccessfully, to immigrate to the United States. Only when he had exhausted every means of appeal did he come to Canada, where his two younger brothers were studying at Ontario's University of Waterloo. Sung quickly found a job in Toronto's Spadina Avenue garment district working in a clothing manufacturer's sweatshop for \$125 a week—a drastic cut from the \$400 he had been earning in New York. A series of better jobs followed, peaking in a three-year design stint with manufacturer Percy London of London Ltd. There, Sung was finally given the freedom to design his own sportswear collection. But he says he was not given any direction on pricing or marketing. As a result, he created clothes that were too expensive and almost gaudy. They sold poorly, and soon afterward Sung was fired.

That setback convinced the young designer that he wanted to be self-employed. With \$6,000 in savings and the encouragement of a wide circle of friends, including Michelle Lloyd-Berenson, at that time a boutique owner and now assistant designer in Sung's accessory collection, he opened a boutique called Moon in Toronto. During three years of running the business, while Sung did everything from designing to sewing fabric, his square-cut cotton shirts and narrow-legged corduroy pants developed a strong underground following among fashion-conscious young women. Sung himself was a fashion lecture in the store, and it was there that Joseph Minnra first spotted him. Recalling Minnra: "I was walking along about 10:30 on a Friday night. I looked in the shop, admired the clothing and then in the back I saw a little fellow sketching away diligently. I was impressed."

That favorable impression stuck with Minnra and months later he called Sung in a panic. The Minnra designer had left for a better job, and the company had \$200,000 worth of Marnie Gibson and no designer for what was to have been the fledgling manufacturing firm's first sportswear collection. In desperation, they asked Sung to design a 30-piece collection of jackets, blouses, pants and skirts for a fee of \$5,000. They were so delighted with the result that they asked him to design a second collection. Initially, both designer and manufacturer were polite but wary, having been burned by bad relationships in the past. Finally in December, 1978, Joseph Minnra, who was then president, developed a close rapport, and later, in 1980, Sung took him to dinner at Esther's



exclusive Ashberg Garroche restaurant. Later, over coffee at Sung's home, Joseph proposed a 50-50 partnership. Recalling Sung: "Joe said, 'Alfred, you will be working for yourself still. We will be equal partners.' 'Resisted by the prospect of the new venture, Sung accepted and closed his shop. 'It's strange where you look back,' he said. 'I don't think any of us thought then that we would grow to where we are today.'"

Despite what appears to be an overnight success, the growth of the company which now employs nearly 200 people in Toronto and five in New York was not all smooth sailing. There were times when Joseph, who oversees the financial side of the company while his brother looks after sales, wondered how they would meet their next payroll. Once he had to ask his father-in-law to cough a \$20,000 loan to keep the business going. Initially, store buyers were skeptical about purchasing an entire collection and about the ability of the break, inexperienced manufacturers to deliver. As a

Sung in cutting room, undisturbed sleep

result, the company lost money on its first two seasons. A few influential fashion buyers provided early support, notably Marnie Gibson, at Eaton's downtown Toronto store, where Sung opened his first boutique in 1981. For Gibson, the team approach adopted by Sung and the Minnras was ideal for a retailer. Although the Minnras do not interfere directly with the design, Joseph, in particular, keeps Sung informed of fashion trends, market research and trends that do not all within the collection. Saul Gibson: "This makes them really unique. They keep Alfred informed about the market, and he, in turn, really wants to know. There is no artistic ego going in the way." As a result of the close co-operation between the Minnra Group and retailers, Sung is the only Canadian designer with his own separate boutiques inside both Eaton's and Holt Renfrew.

When the Canadian market for Sung designs started to expand in 1981, Saul Minnra turned his attention to the United States First, a New York buying

agent told him there was no room for another sportswear manufacturer in the United States. Undaunted, Saul hired his own agent, rented a New York showroom and took out a splashy \$15,000 page ad in the March, 1981, issue of *Women's Wear Daily*, announcing, "This is Alfred Sung." The public paid off handsomely in U.S. orders for the fall-winter season. But the first experience turned into a minor disaster. Because the Minnra Group made an error in the sizing of the clothing, the collection sold poorly, profits had to be slashed, and the company sustained a \$250,000 loss. Saul told Minnra: "We paid dearly for that mistake. With that experience, most Canadian manufacturers would have packed up and gone home with their tails between their legs." Minnra is proud of the fact that, since then, the Sung line has sold so well that the partners have never had another such loss.

Another near disaster occurred last week when a New York preview of the Sung spring line was disrupted, along with the previews of most other New American manufacturers, by a fire and

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power failure in the city's garment district. "It was pandemonium," said Saul Mirman, "but I'm confident our accounts will stay with us."

The Mirman's bold entrepreneurial strokes are in sharp contrast to the lackluster performance of the Canadian fashion industry as a whole. The business still suffers from what top-flight Montreal designer Leo Chevillon calls a "yawn, fat lack of professionalism." There are about 86 designers across

Canada producing fashions under their own label, whether in partnership with a manufacturer or on their own. But few of them enjoy national recognition or earn more than \$1 million a year wholesale. Only a handful of stars such as Rene, Chevillon and Toronto-based Wayne Clark have tapped the \$10-million mark. In fact, designer merchandise probably accounts for less than five per cent of Canada's garment industry, which ranges from struggling smaller manufacturers, leading low-cost im-

ports to robust agencies such as Peter Nygard's Winnipeg-based Tan Day International Ltd., with factories around the world that mass-produce swimwear patterns. Many Canadian sportswear manufacturers either buy designs from outside the country—Zorich's Dyles Ltd., for one, buys the Daniel Hechter name—or make inexpensive copies of New York and Paris fashions.

Traditionally, Canadian manufacturers have been reluctant to get involved in expensive promotion of in-house de-

signers in the Mirman. Most Canadian designers have not even tried to export, although some are now adding for government assistance to get them started. This trend attracts serious industry observers such as Flavio Harcourt, who says "Saul Mirman just went down and did it. The others can too, but so few of them have had the guts to try." The Sung strategy, however, is being closely watched within the industry and may well influence its future development. Said Linda Lundstrom, president of the 23-member association called Toronto Ontario Designers. "Alfred and that whole company have been a wonderful incentive for all of us."

Initially, the partners of the Mirman Group seem to be less impressed with their own success. Saul Mirman says that he is determined to make Alfred Sung a household name in North America. Mirman is acutely aware that although influential U.S. department stores like Saks Fifth Avenue, Bloomingdale's, Neiman-Marcus and Bergdorf Goodman carry Sung and Saks named him one of the top 10 new designers of the year in 1985, no U.S. retailer has so far given him his own in-house boutique alongside such luminaries as U.S. designers Anne Klein and Perry Ellis. Nor has Sung been singled out for lavish attention on the editorial pages of *Vogue* or *Women's Wear Daily*. The current push to open free-standing Sung stores in the United States is an attempt to gain increased recognition as well as to promote sales. Said Saul Mirman succinctly, lighting a second cigarette before he has finished smoking his first. "We will not be relaxed. We will not be passed over." His aggressive strategy shows the promise of succeeding. Predicts Mays Uebel, senior vice-president of Saks. "There is a good likelihood that he could get an in-store boutique in the future."

For Sung's part, he says that he tries not to think about the future, fearing that if he raises his hopes too high he might be disappointed. Occasionally, he speaks wistfully about retiring one day to the countryside outside Paris to paint and draw. But Joseph Mirman dismisses such a plan as an idle daydream. "He is 100 per cent into what we're doing here. You never seen anyone so totally committed, so engaged. He is absolutely raring to be a superstar" that after 28 years in the fashion industry, Sung is still an underdog. "You can be a star one season, then nothing the next," he said ruefully. In the ephemeral world of North American fashion, it is a painfully practical sentiment.

Will Austin Clarke in Toronto



Sung in his at-home living room. "He is absolutely raring to be a superstar"

signers, because they fear they will branch out on their own when their names are established. Few manufacturers enjoy the support with department stores that Saul Mirman does, because he considers retailing so much a part of his job as manufacturing. And, although a few leading Canadian designers such as Toronto's Pat McDougall and Norma Lefebvre and Wayne Clark also enjoy healthy sales in the United States, no one has tackled the vast \$75-billion U.S. market as aggressively

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Pattar (left) and Canadian Anglican Primate Ted Scott; delegates entering convention tent. 300 churches in three countries

RELIGION

The politics of Protestantism

By Malcolm Gray

The Protestant and Eastern Orthodox churches of the world were unable to reach agreement on theological issues during their 18-day assembly, which ended in Vancouver last week. But they achieved a remarkable unity as one of the most pressing social and political issues of modern times—the production and deployment of nuclear weapons. The 30th Assembly of the World Council of Churches declared: "We believe that Christians should give witness to their unwillingness to participate in any conflict involving weapons of mass destruction of indiscriminate effect." In fact, the WCC stated as the strongest antinuclear position ever taken by such a major Christian organization. Almost without dissent, the 800 representatives of roughly 640 million Christians worldwide asked their member churches to consider helping antinuclear protesters who engage in civil disobedience. Declaring the use of nuclear weapons to be "a crime against humanity," they supported a freeze on weapons development and testing, opposed the scheduled deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles in Western Europe and called for major reductions in Soviet intermediate-range missiles.

In all, the disarmament proposals established possibly the most significant (if not the most) ever issued by the 35-year-old WCC, and it signaled the 800 member churches' intention to become more deeply

involved in the debate over the use of nuclear weapons. But in other nuclear issues, the tension of international political differences clearly hampered the WCC from taking a strong position. Although common denials strongly condemned U.S. policies in Guatemala, Nicaragua and El Salvador, they voted down a call for the immediate withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan after two Russian Orthodox bishops protested vigorously.

Orthodox delegates, representing roughly a quarter of the council's membership, were in fact at the center of many of the controversies that surfaced during the assembly. Most significant was the continuing opposition of Eastern European churches to the ordination of women, a position shared by the Roman Catholic Church, which sent observers to the assembly. The polarization over that issue led WCC General Secretary Philip Potter to resort to a highly metaphorical while wandering if Christians would ever achieve the long-cherished dream of unity. "We used to hurl missiles at each other," said the Caribbean theologian. "Now we have drawn closer again and we are at the point of close combat with each other in the best sense. We know each other, we know what the issues are, and now comes the problem and the difficulty—what do we do next?" One Roman Catholic observer, Rev. Thomas Strassky from Oak Ridge, N.Y., was even more blunt. "We have decided not to spend any more energy on trying to get unity now," he said.

But even with the ecclesiastical movement practically stalled, the world's involvement in more worldly affairs—such as supplying aid to Third World guerrilla movements—guarantees that it will continue to arouse controversy. WCC delegates warmly welcomed black Bishop Desmond Tutu, moderator of the South African Council of Churches, when he finally arrived after receiving last-minute permission from the Pretoria government to attend the assembly. Tutu was in time to hear the council's decision to appoint him to continue helping refugees.

Still, the WCC was less at ease discussing controversial repression in Eastern Europe and Afghanistan. Potter admitted that to do so would raise problems for Christians working under Communist rule. But that argument was seen by fundamentalist Christians such as U.S. Representative Jesse Helms and South Carolina evangelist Bill Jison as an ecclesiastical double standard. They were not alone. A rally they addressed, condemning the WCC's financing of liberation movements, attracted 700 people.

With the council's renewed commitment to action, criticism of the paths chosen by such a loose federation of Christians is certain to continue—from both inside and outside the organization. Said Potter, in a closing proclamation that pressed more restraining to come: "If there is one church the World Council of Churches will never do, it is to try and dodge issues."

Countering nuclear 'madness'

As the World Council of Churches grappled with the difficult issue of nuclear weapons last week in Vancouver, one of the more visible participants in the debate was Most Rev. Robert Runcie, Archbishop of Canterbury and spiritual leader of the world's Anglican churches. The 63-year-old archbishop, who has been primate of the Church of England since 1980, brought a unique perspective to a clerical discussion of war—before he became a priest, Runcie was a tank commander in the Second World War, winning the Military Cross for bravery as the British Army advanced into Germany in 1945. He discussed his views with Malcolm Gray.

Malcolm's: How should a Christian respond to the stockpiling of nuclear weapons?

Runcie: We must recognize that a world that attempts to keep peace by a nuclear balance is a world in the grip of madness. On the other hand, you cannot see madness by pictures and you must, as a Christian, I believe, keep firmly to the imperative of the Lord's Christ: we are to be peacemakers. We must alert the international community to the madness of nuclear weapons as a way of trying to keep peace. There are many ways to peacemaking, to our unexpected world. There is the kind of trust and loyalty to truth that needs to be built up so that we are not engulfed by violent language or rhetoric and abuse and lying propaganda, which are sometimes emanated via from peace groups as well as from militarists. I have known ardent pacifists and people in the forces, I cannot deny, who are more deeply about peace and order and yet, perhaps, than some who cry for the ideal.

Malcolm's: Does that put you in the position of being in favor of a just war?

Runcie: I am convinced that the principles of the just war cannot apply to full-scale nuclear warfare. The whole idea of thinking about war shows that we've got to the nuclear business. I used to apply the just-war concept, and I think that it [the just-war] is limited circumstances. I believe that the recent Falklands conflict did [fit that concept] in the extreme sense, yet, that you need force proportionate to the aim and that you had the object of noncoercion rather than triumph. The last great war, against Hitler, was, for me, one that could be argued as just-war principles—that was the extreme I believe to take. On the other hand, they are capable of rendering us our contribution to human problems should spring from our convictions. If what we

Runcie: That's right. I preached at a Thanksgiving service after the Falklands victory, and there was heavy criticism from some quarters of the press, particularly that the service was insufficiently triumphant. I did recognize that our soldiers had fought bravely but I wanted to alert our listeners for the victims of both sides and the families of both sides. I know that it was a very controversial service but I thought that people would accept what a Christian minister felt compelled to say.



Runcie: Christians are peacemakers

Malcolm's: There have been suggestions here that the WCC is too involved in the politics of the world, and the example set is in its guidelines.

Runcie: The fundamentalist opposition, it seems to me, has been violent and simplistic. On the one hand, they are capable of rendering us our contribution to human problems should spring from our convictions. If what we

produce is really a dull echo of the liberal consensus, then how can we claim that ours is a Christian witness? I think that there is an exclusive self-righteousness about some sectarian preachers.

Malcolm's: Do you mean that they are preaching a religion based on hate rather than love?

Runcie: Yes, I think that one of the dangers we face is that some of the fundamental groups are often ready to accept mindless religious revival and thereby increase the dangerous cult of annihilation in the world. I believe that our tradition, our Anglican tradition, has something to say about complacency and fundamentalism and fundamentalism. We have tried to marry genuine religious experience with faith in rational processes. That, I think, is needed today.

Malcolm's: Why have you been opposed to the ordination of women?

Runcie: Let me just say a word about the Anglican Church. We are a family of churches, each of which expresses a common loyalty to the Bible, creed, sacraments and apostolic ministry through the centuries of the country with a wide variety of liturgy and church order. Now there comes up the question of the ordination of women, just at a time when we are trying, as we so many other international bodies, to shape the appropriate institutions for an international family in the modern world. And the result is that there has now been in the Anglican communion ordination of women in a minority of countries, but quite strongly in the United States, Canada, New Zealand and in England. The result is why some of us, though thinking that there were strong arguments in favor of the ordination of women, did not want to take that step forward was that it threw up obstacles in our growing unity with the Roman Catholics and the Eastern Orthodox church in particular. For parts of the Anglican communion, in the midst of a dialogue we had set up with them, to change the ordering of the church so fundamentally seemed wrong. And therefore I am sure why I felt that the way and the time at which it was done was the difficulty, rather than the ordination of women in itself.

Malcolm's: How do you feel about ordaining homosexuals?

Runcie: I got into trouble when I answered that question. It is a very complicated question. I feel it is a very important pastoral question and as far as I am concerned I have not reached a preferring homosexual and I am particularly concerned about those who do campaign for homosexual rights and who see the presence of the church in their priesthood as then subordinate to their campaigning. □



Comment: "we are going to have to go to the public and say, 'we need your help'."

MUSEUMS

A future for the past

The closing of a bell and the start of a stream innovative events marked the grand opening of the Glenbow Museum's *The Great CP Rail Exposition* last week in Calgary. But the celebration was almost drowned out by the howls of outrage from scholars, historians and even fiction writers from across Canada because of the announced closing of the museum's treasured archives. In the forefront of the protest was author Pierre Berton, who relied heavily on the Glenbow's storehouse of historical documents to write his two-volume history of the Canadian Pacific Railway, *The National Dream* and *The Last Spike*. Berton sent a telegram to Alberta Premier Peter Lougheed, Glenbow's honorary chairman, urging the provincial government to keep the archives open. And as of his committee of 16 University of Calgary professors considered going to court to keep the museum from carrying out its plans just two days before the opening, a sympathetic provincial cabinet granted \$150,000 to keep the archives available to the public.

Still, the grant was not large enough to cover the remaining \$400,000 short-fall in the private institution's \$1.6-million operating budget. (More than a third of its funding already comes from the province.) As a result, the museum is planning to close its doors to the public on Mondays and Tuesdays, shut down its fourth-floor military museum, reduce educational programs to cut the number of student visitors to 10,000

from more than 30,000 and cancel a program of lending artifacts to other smaller museums for special exhibits. As well, at least 21 people will be laid off out of a staff of 180. Museum Director Duncan Cameron said he felt "loopy" about the cutbacks but added that the Glenbow is so different from most national institutions across the country which are facing money problems in the aftermath of the recession. Stud Cameron: "We are going to have to go to the public and say, 'We need your help.'"

But the Glenbow, the only one of Canada's six largest national institutions that holds artifacts in the public trust west of Toronto, is determined to run the cut show for nine months. The exhibit, the Glenbow's largest ever, includes period photographs, paintings and models telling the story of the impact of the railway on Western Canada between the 1860s and the 1890s. In dramatic detail, it portrays the hardships of a succession of pioneers who opened the West, from the surveyors who plotted the route and the men who laid the tracks to the immigrants who answered the 1868 CP's promise to sell to "Build your west in Western Canada." The exhibit clearly indicates the importance of the Glenbow, and similar institutions, in preserving Canada's heritage. Despite the province's reprieve and the projected \$65,000 revenue the Glenbow expects to earn from the CP exhibit, substantial new funding will be needed to guarantee its continued operation — GORDON LEECH in Calgary

IMMIGRATION

Foreigner postings

For three weeks directors of three major cultural organizations opened their files to immigration officials, vehemently argued their cases, and crossed their fingers. Last week they saw their case when the minister of employment and immigration, Lloyd Axworthy, now transport minister, ruled that the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, Winnipeg's Contemporary Dance and the Vancouver Opera Association could hire foreigners for top artistic posts. The minister's decision followed an extensive investigation into each group's hiring process. Concluded Axworthy: "They simply could not find Canadians with the qualifications necessary. They convinced me of that."

The minister's decision ended weeks of suspense for the three groups. The Vancouver Opera wanted to hire Brian McManister, the director of the Welsh National Opera, an artistic director, and British mandolinist Valerie Bessie as general manager. Axworthy granted a one-year permit to McManister but he demanded that the opera launch an intensive four-week search for a qualified Canadian to replace Bessie.

Meanwhile, Bill Brown of Seattle, Wash., has secured a one-year permit to work as the artistic director of the Winnipeg dance group. And immigration officials will process American Alexander Gaudier's application for loaded immigrant status so that he can start work as the Montreal Museum's director. Late last month the Quebec government annulled a 1977 agreement with Ottawa and announced that French-speaking Gaudier, the director of a Georgia law arts academy, would be welcome in Montreal. That move irritated Axworthy.

The dance may have further long-term effects on the training of Canadian cultural staff. Not only must the Vancouver Opera hire a Canadian assistant for McManister, but the Winnipeg dancers will be given federal funding to create an assistant artistic director post for a Canadian. And the Montreal Museum must hire a Canadian as communications director Argued Axworthy side Pat Preston: "What has whole experience has proven is that there is a lack of suitable Canadians, and they are not available because they have not been trained. Now we must work to remedy that."

—MARY JANEVICH in OREGON.

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BEHAVIOR

The subtle art of flirting

Four years ago, Prof. Timothy Perper, a biologist at Rutgers University in New Jersey, was an established expert on the behavior of rats. At 38, he was also emerging from a divorce. He realized, with "quite a shock," he says, that although he knew how female rats sent out subtle signals when they were interested in a male rat, he understood next to nothing about the behavior of women. "I was interested in precopulatory behavior as, to be less clinical, in courtship and flirting," said Perper. "It had been years since I experienced dating—way back in high

school. At a party she may simply stroll over to a refreshment table where a man is standing, or in a bar she may just stand close to where he is drinking. But then it is up to the man. "He has to look at her," he said. "He has to make some slight way that he is aware that she has moved into his territory."

When a man and a woman begin to talk, according to Perper's observations, they tend to turn slowly to face each other. In a bar, that process can take more than half an hour. "If all is going well," as the turning process is under way," he said, "one of them, usu-



Perper researching 'usually the woman will make the first touch'

school and college—and I didn't know about it any more." He went to work on the subject and is now preparing to publish the findings from his exhaustive study of 2,600 "flirtation encounters."

Funded with a \$20,000 grant from the Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation in New York, his research involved visits to more than 40 bars, lounges and taprooms from Philadelphia, where he now lives, to Windsor, Ont., where he spent a week to determine whether Canadians flirted the same way as Americans (they do). And his principal conclusion, Perper told *Windsor's*, is that not only do women initiate more than half of all flirtings, but many men also read the women's subtle signals correctly.

Although Perper studied flirtation at parties and picnics, in college classrooms and even in supermarkets, he encountered no bars because he believes that flirting happens faster there, and an observer can stay in the background unnoticed. The first flirtation move is not always obvious, he found, particularly if it is made by a

man. At a party she may simply stroll over to a refreshment table where a man is standing, or in a bar she may just stand close to where he is drinking. But then it is up to the man. "He has to look at her," he said. "He has to make some slight way that he is aware that she has moved into his territory."

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ally the woman, will make the first touch. Often she will remove an invisible piece of hair from his jacket." But again the man may not even realize that the touch—signalling that the woman is opening up to him—has been made.

If the budding relationship develops well, the next stage "has to be seen to be believed," he said. "It's called 'body movement synchronization.' The two people will tilt their drinks together, their hand gestures will be exactly the same, they will move their heads in the same way at the same time. Eventually it goes to the whole body and they will shift their weight from one foot to the other at the same time. It is very intimate, a dance that they are sharing."

After the bar closes, or the party ends, and the couple leaves together, the next development remains a matter of speculation. "I don't know," Perper said, "because I don't follow beyond that point." In his own case, Perper has remembered where he began his study. He learned, he said, from observation.

—WILLIAM LUTHERIE in Washington



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BOOKS

Feminism's calmer side

OUTRAGEOUS ACTS AND EVERYDAY REBELLIONS

By Gloria Steinem

(Oscar, Random & House, 281 pages, \$18.95)

In 1968 the already high-profile feminist Gloria Steinem found ample proof of just how far the women's movement still had to go. She had been actively involved in the early stages of George McGovern's presidential campaign but was surprised to discover that her name had been deleted from a list of people invited to a key planning meeting. A skeptical McGovern explained that despite strategist Senator Abraham Ribicoff had laid down a rule for the meeting: "no broads." In *Outrageous Acts and Everyday Rebellions*, Steinem recalls: "McGovern never would have let Ribicoff get away with saying 'no broads' or 'no Jews'." No broads? was bad form, but sometimes acceptable.

Steinem continued to work for McGovern, which is typical of her calm, non-aggressive approach to feminism. Such an approach has helped the remainder of life magazine with acceptability, if not the serious consideration of the media. The theme running throughout the first collection of her writings is that sexism is generally not treated with the same seriousness and concern that other forms of discrimination are. The kinds of violence presented in some paragraphic films and magazines would not be as readily tolerated, she suggests, if Jews or blacks were the ones depicted in demeaning, twisted confusion. Elsewhere Steinem, admiring the lack of world outrage over the brutal practice in some African countries of female circumcision—the cutting off of women's clitorises, often with knives or broken glass. Steinem says this international agencies claim that they are reluctant to interfere with local customs, but such organizations have not stopped campaigns to distribute razors and extenders over local objections.

The selection is a mix, both in subject and in quality. Some articles are underdeveloped, with themes that now seem hackneyed. In others Steinem displays considerable insight. Commenting on the popularity of TV soap operas, Steinem writes, "They are the only place in our culture where grown-up men take seriously all the things that grown-up women have to deal with all day long." In another provocative arti-

cle she discredits arguments that those in favor of the right to abortion are Hitler's followers. Rather, Steinem shows that Hitler's views on abortion were surprisingly similar to those in the anti-abortion camp in the desire to remove from women any control over their reproductive function and restore a lost world of compulsory feminine domesticity.

Although the articles are rarely personal, one does present a rich portrait of her relationship with her mentally unstable mother. By deftly putting together her mother's life before and after a major nervous breakdown, Steinem leaves the reader questioning how much her mother's condition might have stemmed from a decision to abandon her own promising career to help out with her husband's resort business.

Steinem looks the urbane and apologetic Germaine Greer or Simone de Beauvoir but she does emerge as a warm, likable, vulnerable character than the one painted of her by the media. The book gives a glimpse of a woman who, behind the familiar long hair and aviator glasses, is not only committed to feminism but is willing to laugh at herself as well. —LENNA MCGUIN

MACLEAN'S BEST-SELLER LIST

Fiction

- 1 *The Little Drummer Girl, Is-Caree (A)*
- 2 *Christina, King (A)*
- 3 *White-Gold Winkler, Donatien (A)*
- 4 *Amos Breckinridge, Muller (A)*
- 5 *Return of the Bell (A)*
- 6 *Vance of the Heart, Bradford (A)*
- 7 *The Name of the Book, Eric (A)*
- 8 *Invitation, Gendreau (A)*
- 9 *The Summer of Katia, Prosser (A)*
- 10 *The Lament Effect, Robert and Susan*

Nonfiction

- 1 *In Search of Excellence, Peters and Waterman Jr (A)*
- 2 *Montreal, Knobel (A)*
- 3 *The Price of Power, North (A)*
- 4 *The Last Lion, MacIntyre (A)*
- 5 *Portrait, Thomas and Morgan-Watts (A)*
- 6 *Outsiders Link, MacLennan (A)*
- 7 *The Outcast People, Mount (A)*
- 8 *The World's Working Book, Pinsky (A)*
- 9 *How to Live to Be 100 or More, Doris*
- 10 *The Love You Make, Brown and Mack (A)*

(A) Fiction and non-fiction



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SCIENCE

A self-test for drinkers

Scientists at Toronto's Addiction Research Foundation (ARF) have devised a quick, easy test to enable drinkers to measure their own impairment before deciding whether or not to drive. Developed by Drs. Rochelle Kuper and Yeha Israel of the ARF's alcohol research, the "Alcohol Dipstick" is a strip of paper which, when exposed to saliva or urine, changes color to indicate the approximate level of alcohol in the system. Dipstick test strips will not be available in drug stores for at least 2½ years, says Israel. The ARF laboratories and emergency unit is already using the new test to detect alcohol immediately between alcohol intoxication and other types of intoxication, such as barbiturate overdose or diabetic coma. In the past, such patients would have undergone sophisticated laboratory tests, which take at least an hour to produce results.

The dipstick gives a reading in 90 seconds, changing a color from pale pink to dark red. Graduations indicate alcohol levels from minimal to more than 100 mg per 100 ml. of blood. The Criminal Code defines 80 mg or more as legal impairment, anyone with more than 100 would be grossly intoxicated. The test's developers consider it to be at least 90 per cent accurate, but they stress that it cannot replicate the standard breath test. Said Israel: "A breathalyzer can show 0.1 or 0.2 mg in a sample, all we can say is 'between 80 and 150.'" Besides, police still cannot use the new test because under current legislation an evidence device called ALCOHOL (Alcohol Level Evaluation Roadside Tester) is the only portable alcohol level tester that the police may use as a basis for demanding a full breathalyzer test at a police station. And there are no plans to submit any new device for approval, said federal justice department lawyer Richard Mosley.

Meanwhile, the new test is proving useful to the researchers who want to test the efficacy of supposedly reformed alcoholics. Said Israel: "Even recent conversions can be fooled by alcoholics of long standing, at levels as high as 150 mg per 100 ml. of blood." But if the dipstick becomes available for general use, drivers will have no excuse for fooling themselves about their sobriety when they get behind the wheel.

—DAVE SILBERT in Toronto



Wallace and Pinsky: the terror of bad security

FILMS

A family's fears

CEJO

Directed by Lewis Teague

Cujo is terrifying, but it does not blinden the audience with gratuitous violence in the manner of many recent horror films. Adapted from the Stephen King best seller, the movie preys on common fears, notably the disruption of the security of family life. The family in the film is a small one: an advertising executive, Vic Troton (Daniel Hugh Kelly), his wife Donna (Dixie Walker), and their six-year-old son, Tad (Daisy Fuentes). Though Vic and Donna are drifting apart (she has been having an affair), their son still binds them together. It is not so the terrifying events of Cujó occur that they realize what they have taken for granted.

Cujo is the name of a St. Bernard that becomes maddened after a vampire bit bites it. The screenwriters, Don Carlos Dunaway and Lauren Currier, have tightly structured King's tale, suspended

hearts easily on to terrifying. His horror is not so much the monstrous mind but the destruction of a family—a unit that, despite its problems, can still be reassuring, secure and worthwhile. Stephen King has admitted that his greatest terror originates from the thought that something might happen to his own family. Each audience is a grieving family of his books, and the film-makers have honored his intentions. While Cujó lacks the automating fear and style that a director like Brian de Palma could have brought to it, it is consistently well shot, well acted and well written.

Strangely enough, the movie's distributor, Warner Brothers, released it without any press screenings and little publicity. Perhaps the studio thought that the film was not disturbing enough to compete in the current marketplace of horror films. Instead, Cujó makes the happy mistake of concentrating itself with something real and unviolently unnerving. —LAWRENCE O'TOOLE

Too much talk, too little action

PAULINE AT THE BEACH
Directed by Eric Rohmer

The detective played by Gene Hackman in the 1975 film *Night Moves* remarked that watching as Eric Rohmer movie was like watching paint dry. That is not exactly correct: to give the French director his due, watching Eric Rohmer movie is more like watching a wall get a white-mustard finish. Innuent talk and endless ponderings about 'amour' characterize Rohmer's films—*My Night at Monsieur's*, *Clair de Lune*, *Le Beau Mariage* and now, *Pauline at the Beach*. After a while the mind goes for some release from all the chic subtlety and Gallic gab. The people in *Pauline at the Beach* never seem to exit outside the film frame. It is hard to imagine how they spend their time when not holding forth on their feminist subjects, the confessions, entanglements, desires and occasional joys of love. They do sleep and peek at some food and sex, then, the rest of their time must be spent taking medication for lazing.

Marion (played by the statuesque Annette Bening), a fashion designer, arrives at a seashore house on the Normandy coast to look her wounds following her divorce. Marion's 15-year-old cousin, Pauline (Amelia Langley), who turns out to be yet another of Rohmer's characteristically wise virgins, accompanies her. While Pauline enjoys herself at the beach, presumably basking in all the wisdom that she has acquired, Marion is "waiting for that sophisticated thing called love." It is offered to her by a man who, in a wind-swept scene (Pauline Gossage) would be a nameless fellow who mopes around after her. But Marion does not want love from Pierre and instead takes up with a widowed man (Foster Allen) who she meets in a night club with a beach vendor (Gossage) and even makes a play for Pauline who, with the wisdom of her 18 years, outgazes him. Pierre witnesses Pauline's seduction, and Pauline's friend Sylvain (Renée de Brans) becomes mixed up in Marion's affairs and eventually everyone goes home sadder but not wiser.

Rohmer's characters talk about love in the abstract; they would do much better with a patient therapist instead of an audience. They are polite, juvenile and boring. What *Pauline at the Beach* needs is another character who tells them all to shut up. As an epigraph to the film warns: "He who talks too much digs his own grave." Philosopher, lead thyself. —LOTT

Flying the flag at centre stage



Robbie O'Neil, Jessica Booker of Ryth (above) join competition for Best Reynolds

By Mark Connolly

Summer theatre has rarely been taken seriously. As a holiday attraction, revivals of *Arcadia* and *Off Lee* have traditionally rated second best after Bert Reynolds' reruns. But the 1970s saw remarkable spreading of changes and production standards, especially in southern Ontario, where a large potential audience is inflated each summer by an influx of 30 million Americans tourists. This season the opening of two new theatres in Grand Bend and Cobourg, both presenting all-Canadian works, indicates that audiences are ready for alternatives to both the chosen at the Stratford and Shaw Festivals, and Neil Simon.

Cultivating local produce has already yielded successful harvests in several theatres across the country. The Charlottetown Festival has been thriving and maintaining its own ensemble since 1965. A constant spark, both programmatically and economically, the popular (Toronto Stage Company) has been sending its home-grown entourage of sets and players through the BC Interior for more than a decade. In Port Stanley, Ont., a small village on Lake Erie, the Port Stanley Summer Festival is in its sixth year of staging Canadian plays in a 16-seat theatre and is taking a child-drama show as a whistle-stop tour throughout southern Ontario. Now, those groups have been joined by Cobourg's Town Hall Theatre Company,

which made its debut last week with a local history musical called *Travels* by J.P. Nohel and Mary Burton. And at the Huron County Playhouse in Grand Bend, where a new second stage has been devoted to Canadian material, recently appointed artistic director Ron Ulrich says the shows in an easy way do with competing entries in Canadian theatre. Said he: "The point is, they go away having enjoyed the show and then find out later it was Canadian."

But the most successful and ambitious summer season of Canadian works is mounted at Ontario's Ryth Summer Festival, where tourists only occasionally crop up among the loyal Huron County audiences. As the undisputed successor to Quebec's Festival d'été, Festival Leamsville, whose artistic director showcases acclaimed Canadian plays withered in 1981 for want of an audience, Ryth had the distinction last year of seeing Anne Cleland's *Land—originally produced at the Festival—win the coveted Chalmers Award for best new Canadian play. As well as two local plays, Ryth's tenth season is currently featuring a visiting production from Nova Scotia's Midgrove Road Co-op and three revivals, in-*

cluding Ted Jones's one-man show, *Noised on the North Shore*, and Graham Gilmour's *The Innocent* and *The Just*. But having proved that an all-Canadian festival can be successful, artistic director Janet Amos is anxious to extend Ryth's horizons beyond the rural economy. It has demonstrated an extraordinary, said Amos: "With a lot of the works we have been doing, you get bogged down with questions like, 'How many times do we have seen this show?'"

In the same way that seeing Canadian plays has become popular with summer audiences, performing there is attracting top talent, not just the usual fading television stars. Ryth's season is unusually star-studded, featuring designer Henry Probert from Stratford and actress Ann Cusack, as well as David Pincus, in playwright workshops. Their participation reflects not just an opportunity to do interesting work but an overall economic malaise in Canadian theatre. Port Stanley's artistic director, Jim Schaefer, was amazed that 200 actors auditioned in Toronto for four roles. He views Port Stanley as "a launchpad for young actors and technicians," and he is concerned that in summer theatre businesses and "middle range" professionals will be squeezed out by the top performers. But, freer on federal grants and anticipated cutbacks by the Ontario government will continue to limit available roles and sustain the buyer's market.

The urge to stage only Canadian work—condemned by many to be a niche proposition—seems to go hand in hand with an even wider commitment to nurturing new plays as well. Musicals especially are in short supply, and both Schaefer and Ulrich are looking original material this season, unlike Charlottetown, which is re-playing old hits *Caravan* has presented *Wagons and Dragons*, a new play by BC playwright Sherrill Stinson. *Caravan* features fantasy and 1930s realism. And in Cobourg artistic director Bertus Lancaster wants to follow up last summer with more "heritage" plays. The Festival As Ryth's renewed inclination, the attraction to Canadian work can add up as much more than just a summer romance. ☐



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The Tories' stand-up comedian

By Allan Fotheringham

When Brian Mulroney was in search of delegates on his way to the Conservative leadership convention, he ended up in Pembroke, Ont., with wife Mita on what happened to be their 25th wedding anniversary. ("Happy m-c," I told Mita, "and I promise you'll see a lot of travel.") While there, he had a particularly hard time running over the serious young lady who was leader of the riding's youth delegates. Try Tories are in any on policy, and Mulroney, as is his wont,

Canadian public that has had to contemplate for some years now the condescension Joe Clark and the cutting wit of Pierre Trudeau.

Mulroney can be outrageously pompous in some of his public statements, crassness and swearing. But what he really likes to do is so extenuate, and this election season is giving us a preview of what we will see when the fall election campaign begins. He can play a crowd like no one since John Diefenbaker and is using those two hyphenations, at opposite ends of the country, as a rhetorical stage. He is Irish and Se-

blies snick and giggle against their wishes. He loves the spotlight. (How always got the impression that Clark could not wait to get back to the office, his natural milieu. Trudeau has grown bored with the public witness the finger.)

Mulroney is going to make the indefinable Herb Gray ("Mr. Excitement") a cult figure before the next election. He's playing upon the current Liberal minister's old friends utilizing his Tory audience who haven't had any fun from a politician all through the wilderness years of Stouffville and Clark. He ridicules the star, referring to them, constantly as "the socialists," and talks of their "marginalization" with the Liberals.

"Alan Mulroney was the best man. Jack Austin gave the best speech." It is strange to see a Conservative crowd laugh, but, laughing at 50 per cent in the Gallup, Mulroney is not going to risk anything by actually stating where he stands and so he goes there laughs. And, as it happens, he has a nice sense of self-mockery. In a foray into British Columbia's Mission-Port Moody riding, he notes that he has been forced into door-knocking from dawn to dusk, "but hard work doesn't bother me. Now a Senator."

His win in Central Nova on Aug. 25 is a laughter, though he is trying to make it appear that he has to work hard. More interesting is the battle in Mission-Port Moody, what should be a safe NDP seat. Just outside Vancouver, Mulroney cherishes at what will happen if his candidate, Gerry St. Germain, wins on the same day he takes Central Nova. "It would increase the French-speaking contingent in the caucus by 200 per cent."

The country awaits to see whether there is tolerance between the chosen but, as Dalton Camp has said, the Tory party in its wisdom has happened to select a leader whose professional skills are as a confessor. Mulroney made his reputation as a labor negotiator. He knows that one way to confound is to get you laughing first. We're going to see a new style of campaigning, new because it is so old and has not been practiced lately.



was slowly style-handling his way around any firm stands on the great issues of our day. He kept pressing him, and he kept swatting. It was therefore amazed—and delighted—on arriving at the Ottawa ability risk for the June convention to find the same young lady plastered with Mulroney buttons, a loyal supporter. Intrigued, Mulroney dispatched one of his hunkies to ascertain, discreetly, which of his policies had won her over. He wanted to know whether it was abortion, the cruise, his dissertation on Thomas Jefferson's views on democracy or whatever. The aide returned with the truth. The young woman explained that she happened over the delegate breakfast. Mulroney threw in Pembroke. The assembled eggs and bacon arrived. Mulroney immediately reached for the ketchup bottle and tilted it over his eggs. Mulroney happened. He then took his ketchup and stuck it in the bottle. "Anybody who would stick a knife in a ketchup bottle," explained the new supporter, "can't be all bad."

The point of all this is that Brian Mulroney, supposedly prime minister-to-be, is the only national political leader who can tell that sort of story on himself. ("It wasn't NATO," he says, "it was 'n't the Constitution, it was 'n't me!") Aside from explaining a lot about his political modus operandi (person-to-person costs more than policy), it demonstrates his sense of humor. Mulroney genuinely likes to laugh. It is a quality that has been shielded from a John Fotheringham as a columnist for *Business News*.



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